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TASE soars for second day

NEIL COHEN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Tel Aviv Stock Exchange surged yesterday, following Tuesday's recovery. The Two-Sided Index of leading shares leaped 5.54 percent to 161.51 points. The narrower Maof Index rose 5.08 percent to 167.6 points.

Turnover was relatively low at about NIS 166 million.

The market's strength spilled over onto the smaller stocks traded on the Karam computerized trading system, which has been particularly hard hit by the market fall. Shares in the major banks also rebounded strongly.

A key factor behind the market's surge was the drop in mutual fund redemptions, which drove the market down earlier in the week. Reports indicated there may even have been some new money coming into the funds. Some bank provident funds were reportedly heavy buyers.

It was not clear, though, if there was any fundamental reason underlying the market's bounce.

However, traders were less cautious yesterday than on Tuesday when they waited to see what the mutual funds were doing before entering the market. Trading

opened with modest rises and strengthened progressively as the day wore on.

Feelings about the market's surge were mixed. "There is no way you can justify a 5% gain," one capital market analyst said. "The market is going up too much, it's not a healthy sign. After so many ups and downs the market needs a few months of stability."

In contrast, Dan Kitri, a broker for Bank Otzar Hahayal, said "I think the gains are justified, but most people don't agree with me. The market suffered sharp falls, much stronger than necessary. It's time the market went up. I think the correction will continue for several days until people start realizing profits. The market will become much more selective if the correction continues."

Dan Izenberg adds:

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat told the plenum the cabinet will discuss the stock market at its regular session on Sunday.

Shohat said he would not change his policy regarding the stock market.

Full stock report, Page 9

Arafat calls on Israel to speed up implementation of peace agreement

ELDAD BECK and agencies
 PARIS

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday urged Israel to accelerate the implementation of the autonomy agreement in the rest of the territories, since the first stages were completed with considerable success.

Arafat's appeal came during his first meeting yesterday afternoon with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The three met at the Kleber International Conference Center here before receiving the UNESCO Peace Prize named for late Ivory Coast president Felix Houphouët-Boigny.

In his address at the ceremony, Arafat said the process of implementing the autonomy agreement was advancing, but with "insufficient rhythm." He called upon Israel to move ahead faster, so that both sides could negotiate as soon as possible on the territories' final status, the issue of refugees, and the status of Jerusalem.

However, Rabin rejected Arafat's attitude, calling upon the Palestinian leader to be patient, since "one can't expect a conflict that lasted a hundred years to be resolved in a month."

At a separate press conference, Arafat said he had asked Israel again to liberate Hamas founder Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, as well as other prisoners.

However, before the meeting Peres reiterated Israel's position that those prisoners would be released only after they sign a commitment to refrain from all acts of violence.

Peres also suggested that, if the Palestinians found it difficult to organize general elections for their authority, they might hold local municipal elections instead. The IDF, said Peres, would withdraw from population centers on the eve of such elections.

Arafat, however, stressed that the Palestinians are already preparing for general elections, after having consulted several European states and having asked former US president Jimmy Carter to supervise the elections.

Both sides agreed on the necessity of soon forming three working committees that would deal with "early empowerment," enlarging the autonomous areas, and the displaced refugees of 1967. The last issue is to be dealt with by a committee including representatives from Israel, Jordan, Egypt, and the PLO.

Rabin told reporters at a short



As Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin looks on, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat embraces former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger at the Paris ceremony at which Arafat, Rabin, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres received the UNESCO Peace Prize.

news conference that invitations would be soon sent for the committee meeting, and he hopes the meeting will be held at the foreign minister level.

All three met late last night in an attempt to bridge the gaps existing between Israel and the PLO on the continuation of the negotiations. Israeli sources expected the three to agree to resume the talks over the next stages of the Declaration of Principles next week, probably in Cairo.

At the UNESCO award ceremony, both leaders affirmed their commitment to ending a century of Arab-Jewish enmity and giving human content to their historic accords, but their body language illustrated the hesitancy of nascent Israeli-Palestinian peace.

When the time came to receive the \$150,000 peace award from former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger, Rabin accepted his award and turned to walk back to his seat. UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor held him back by the sleeve until Arafat rose to receive his award. After a moment's hesitation, Rabin shook Arafat's outstretched hand vigorously.

Rabin, who sat separated from Arafat by Mayor, had dashed to his seat on arrival in what seemed an attempt not to walk across the stage shoulder-to-shoulder with the Palestinian leader.

Peres shared the prize and the handshakes.

Peres, sitting next to Kissinger, listened attentively to the speech of Arafat during a ceremony lasting two hours, while Arafat fidgeted in his seat and Rabin was at times and so motionless it appeared he might have dozed off.

But Rabin delivered a powerful, emotional speech about the human cost of war. In his deep, rumbling voice, he recounted the successive deaths of three of four sons of a prominent Israeli family, followed by their parents' deaths.

Addressing the surviving son, and through him all families hurt by the Arab-Israeli conflict, Rabin said: "For you, for our children and their children, we are moving towards peace... That is our vow to you."

Arafat, in his acceptance speech, pledged to turn the peace agreement into "testimonials of daily life in a way that will enable our peoples to feel what peace means in terms of freedom, independence, security, safety, justice and prosperity."

Addressing Rabin directly, he declared: "We are all the children of Abraham. We are all cousins."

Arafat appealed to the international community to provide rapid financial assistance to make peace work on the ground.

"Peace is established on two pillars: on the one hand political agreement and on the other, financial and economic arrangements which allow the realization and implementation of this peace," Arafat said. "Without one of these pillars, the peace process, despite its loftiness and importance, will be exposed to failure and loss."

Rabin urged the world to show patience. "We are going along slowly and cautiously, one step at a time, because the enemies of peace are even more numerous than we imagined," he said.

"Extremists on both sides are lying in wait for us and we - Israelis and Palestinians alike - must not fail. At every step, we must think, consider, weigh, check and beware."

Kissinger praised Rabin and Arafat for what he called a "leap of faith... Was this agreement produced by exhaustion or conviction?" he asked. "Our jury was aware of the ambiguities but... we chose to believe in dreams and not in second thoughts."

Gur: Israel will hit back at violations of Oslo Accord

DAN ZENBERG

DEPUTY Defense Minister Mordechai Gur said yesterday the government would shut down the offices of the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation in Jerusalem if it emerged that it was issuing journalists' identity cards.

Gur was replying to a parliamentary query by MK Dan Meridor (Likud), who said he had a copy of a receipt issued by the corporation in lieu of payment by a journalist for an identity card.

Gur added that the government returned all letters from the PLO referring to Yasser Arafat as the president of Palestine.

He also revealed that the government wanted to annex the territory separating Ma'aleh Adumim and Givat Ze'ev from Jerusalem and expand the city's boundaries to include both entities, but was deterred by the expected US reaction to such a move.

Meridor stressed that the logo of the receipt issued by the PBC included the following heading - Palestinian National Authority: Palestinian Broadcasting Authority. The address given was 23 Ma'soudi St., Jerusalem, said Meridor.

He later told *The Jerusalem Post* that the office should be shut down not only because it issued press cards but because it was part of the PNA, which should be restricted to Gaza and Jericho.

In his answer from the podium, Gur did not relate to the second point, but said, "we must check whether it does in fact fulfill this function [of issuing identity cards]. If it does, we will close the office, because that contradicts the Oslo accords and we will absolutely not allow it to operate."

Gur rejected charges by Eliahu Ben-Elissar (Likud) and Shaul Yahalom (NRP) that the government was stalling when it said it had to investigate the status of Palestinian institutions in eastern Jerusalem when it should be taking action.

He warned that the closure of offices that existed before the agreement with the Palestinians would cause serious international problems, as well as problems with the Palestinians.

"You know very well that the

problem has to do with the fact that the vast majority of these offices existed in the past," said Gur. "The difficulties in dealing with new offices is smaller, and we do so immediately. We have a bigger problem with our Arab friends, and non-Arabs, when we come to deal with offices which existed before."

"Even if today they operate in a different manner, it is a problem requiring examination because we have to come up with a clear argument as to why it could operate for two or three years... and now, all of a sudden, when we have an agreement, we cause it trouble," he said.

Gur did not relate to a charge made the day before by Ben-Elissar that Faisal Hussein had issued diplomatic directives from Orient House and the diplomatic corps was cooperating with him. Hussein issued instructions on Orient House stationery regarding participation in a reception for Arafat.

Ben-Elissar told the *Post* the dean of the diplomatic corps, Ivory Coast Ambassador Jean-Pierre Boni, distributed the document to resident diplomats in violation of the government's stated policy.

In some cases it was easy to prove Israel's case, said Gur. Others required "choosing the right tactic of arguing our case not only regarding the Palestinians but also various countries connected to the process in one way or another."

With regard to expanding Jerusalem, Gur said: "We recognize the vital interest in unifying Ma'aleh Adumim with Jerusalem - we're talking about 450 meters [separating the two cities] and uniting [Givat Ze'ev] with Jerusalem. I can tell you we want to, [but] you know the international constraints."

"Basically, the bigger Jerusalem is, the better our options, and we are very aware of the importance of these areas to complete the ring so that Jerusalem will be big," he said. "We have a problem. We have a commitment. We have one commitment which the prime minister is particularly sensitive to, and rightly so, and that is the credibility in our relations with the US in general and the president in particular."

GSS captures terrorist suspected of stabbing Sakuri couple

ALON PINKAS

MANSUR Atef Riyani, 19, was arrested yesterday for allegedly stabbing Yoram and Hanna Sakuri last week in their home in Kiryat Netanim.

General Security Service and IDF units in Samaria apprehended Riyani in his home in Karawat Bani Hassan.

Army sources said Riyani admitted carrying out the attack, saying he wanted to murder the couple to clear his name after Hamas accused him of collaborating with the GSS.

The knife used in the attack was left at the Sakuri home and the attacker also left footprints behind. Both clues led forces to the village.

In the July 1 attack, Yoram Sakuri was seriously wounded. He is still in critical condition at Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva with serious abdominal wounds. Hanna Sakuri was slightly injured.

In reaction to the arrest Hanna Sakuri said, "I hope he sits the rest of his life in prison for what he did to us." She heard of the arrest while sitting at her husband's bedside in the hospital.

Judge blasts police for using 'unreasonable force' at demo

HERB KEINON

JUDGE Eliahu Ben-Zimra, head of the Jerusalem Magistrates Court, strongly censured the police yesterday for using unnecessary force in breaking up an anti-government protest in the capital in November.

Ben-Zimra's criticism came in a ruling that acquitted 12 of 18 right-wing protesters charged with unlawful demonstration and hitting policemen.

The demonstrators marched from a rally in downtown Jerusalem to Paris Square, near the Prime Minister's Office, where they were stopped by police and the demonstration was broken up.

"Police on horseback went onto the sidewalk and into the crowd, trampling people," Ben-Zimra wrote in his 40-page ruling. "The police did not wear identification tags, refused to identify themselves and used unreasonable force."

"A picture emerges," Ben-Zimra wrote, "of a lack of order and confusion in the way the police operated, and the use of unreasonable force. The police set up barricades, but the barricades were defective, and there was no coordination between Mickey Levy [the deputy commander of the Jerusalem police and the

officer in charge] and his subordinates."

Ben-Zimra said the protest was very noisy, and the demonstrators were unable to hear the police orders. Ben-Zimra wrote that some of the demonstrators threw objects at the police, but this did not justify the police's use of force.

The six protesters who were not acquitted were fined between NIS 500 and NIS 2,500. Among the six was Michael Ben-Horin from Moshav Nov in the Golan who, after the Hebron massacre, was placed in administrative detention and later released.

Jerusalem lawyer Naftali Wertzberger, who represented the protesters, said some were arrested solely because they asked to see the policemen's name tags. One of those acquitted, he said, was a man who saw a policeman strike a girl, and intervened to stop him.

Wertzberger said he could not remember a time recently when a judge leveled such blanket criticism of the police for its handling of a demonstration.

Wertzberger said the ruling was passed on to the police's internal investigation unit. A police spokesman said the matter is being "looked into."

Gunmen fire missiles at IDF, SLA positions in S. Lebanon

GUNMEN in southern Lebanon last night fired Sagger and Katyusha missiles at an IDF position near Reihan in the eastern sector of the security zone, sparking heavy return fire by IDF and South Lebanese Army artillery.

The shelling lasted for some three hours, ceasing just before 9 p.m.

One SLA soldier was lightly wounded in the exchange. He was evacuated to a hospital.

The barrage came just two days after a massive bombardment by terrorists of IDF and SLA positions in southern Lebanon.

At the beginning of the week, an IDF soldier was killed and another lightly wounded at the same Reihan position during a barrage of mortar, Sagger, and machine-gun fire.

IDF sources said last night's barrage was unusually severe. Lebanese sources said the firing came from the Bekaa Valley, in an area under Syrian control. The Lebanese sources suggested Syria is encouraging such firing due to the current deadlock in the peace talks.

In a related development, members of Shomer Hatza'ir and United Kibbutz Movement kibbutzim last night said in an interview on the New Channel 2 that they would stage a violent "civil revolt" and "civil war" if the government decided to make any withdrawal from the Golan Heights. (Itim)

Hussein: Jordan-Israel talks to be stepped up

ALON PINKAS

Upon returning to Amman from Cairo, where he briefed President Hosni Mubarak on the status of negotiations with Israel, Hussein told reporters that talks will begin shortly.

In a tent erected in the Arava, some 12 kilometers north of Eilat, Israeli and Jordanian officials met to set the agenda for the talks, which are scheduled to begin by mid-month.

Oded Ben-Ami, Rabin's spokesman, confirmed that Israel and Jordan were trying to get US representatives to the opening of the talks, but refused to discuss the level of that representation.

In an interview in Ha'aretz yesterday, Rabin said Israel also wants the higher-level talks, still officially located in Washington,

to be moved to the region.

Rabin said talks could begin in the Arava and then be subsequently held in each of the two countries, adding that moving the talks to the region would make negotiations easier.

The issues still unresolved between the two countries are the demarcation of borders in two areas, the Arava and south of the Kinneret, where Jordan is demanding territorial adjustments; water rights and the 1967 refugees who fled to Jordan.

The head of the Israeli negotiating team, former cabinet secretary Elyakim Rubinstein, said that while the water and border disputes are bilateral issues, the matter of the refugees is a multilateral issue that must be dealt with by Israel, Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinians.

Report expected today on Shahal-Terner dispute

BILL HUTMAN

THE long-awaited State Comptroller's Report on allegations Police Minister Moshe Shahal intervened in the police investigation of MK Aryeh Deri is scheduled to be released today.

The report is to include findings on the charges by Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo and former police inspector-general Ya'acov Terner that Shahal tried to slow the investigation for political reasons.

The charges, made over a year ago, have far-reaching implications. They may reflect not only on the credibility of Shahal, Terner and Milo - who formerly served as police minister - but of the Israel Police in general.

The accusations have cast a

shadow over the work of police investigators, who are supposed to carry out their probes without taking into account political considerations.

The report is to be presented to the Knesset state control committee this morning. It will then be made public in the afternoon.

The debate last year on the allegations of political interference in the Deri investigation sparked heated accusations and name-calling.

Terner accused Shahal of firing him for refusing to slow down the investigation, in order to keep Deri in the government.

Shahal said he fired Terner because he was "incompetent."



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Amnesty criticizes Israel and Palestinians for rights abuses

EVELYN GORDON

RAEL "systematically tortured or treated (Palestinians) during interrogation" while "Palestinian armed groups committed grave human rights abuses" as well, according to Amnesty International's 1994 report on human rights around the world.

"Common methods [of torture] included beatings, hooding with dirty bags, sleep deprivation, solitary confinement (including in closet-sized cells), and prolonged shackling to a small chair," the report said.

For example, Nader Qumsieh received injuries to his testicles while being held under interrogation in May at the Wafa'ahiriya detention center. One medical report claimed that Nader Qumsieh said he had fallen down stairs, level whereas he repeatedly stated he was first injured as a result of torture.

Palestinian human rights abuses, Amnesty said, included "torture and extrajudicial killings. On October 12, men were shot in the legs

by alleged members of Fatah, apparently as punishment for acts such as burglary in Gaza.

"The number of attacks by armed Palestinians increased," the report added. "Some 35 Israeli civilians and 25 members of the security forces were killed in such attacks, as were over 100 Palestinian civilians... most of them suspected 'collaborators' with the Israeli government, [but] some may have been killed because of their political activities."

The report also slams the killing of some 150 Palestinians by the IDF. While admitting that some were "killed during clashes," the report says others "were killed while apparently not involved in any violent activity, and they may have been victims of extrajudicial executions."

The report also says that three people who died in custody may have been the victims of medical negligence.

Amnesty also scores the arrest of some 13,000 Palestinians on security grounds, including about 300 administrative detentions, and the fact that more than 15,300 Palestinians (in the territories) were tried before military courts.

"A two-step judicial process with legal counsel was available to detainees," the report admitted. "However, legal safeguards were undermined: crucial evidence about the reasons for detention was almost always withheld from detainees and their lawyers, although it was available to the presiding judges."

Finally, the group "expressed concern about attacks carried out on houses where suspects might have been hiding. The army denied that such attacks were a punitive measure. It stressed that those sought for arrest were given the opportunity to give themselves up and residents whose houses were damaged could apply for

compensation. However, the authorities did not clarify the specific evidence presented by Amnesty International suggesting that explosives were used after the storming of houses."

The IDF Spokesman responded by saying that "the Amnesty report ignores the situation in the field, in which armed terrorists use weapons to carry out terrorist attacks. Army activities are aimed against terrorists to prevent and foil violent terror attacks carried out to harm innocent people, Israelis and Palestinians alike."

The spokesman said the army's open-fire orders were very detailed and were drawn up in accordance with the law. He added that it was not IDF policy to destroy houses as punishment or as a deterrent, but only in those isolated instances in which

there is a reasonable assumption that armed terrorists were hiding inside and ignoring demands to give themselves up.

In the Amnesty report, Israel did receive kudos for allowing many deportees to return - including the 400 Moslem extremists deported to Lebanon in 1992 and 30 others deported in previous years - and for canceling the law forbidding contacts with the PLO, which, according to Amnesty, "had previously been used to imprison prisoners of conscience."

However, the organization charges that there are still prisoners of conscience in Israel - mainly "conscientious objectors to military service." It also objected to the solitary confinement in which Moshe Vannun has been held, since he was convicted of revealing secret information about Israel's nuclear program.

The Justice Ministry indignantly rejected Amnesty's charge that Israel

keeps prisoners of conscience, stating that no one is imprisoned here for his beliefs.

The ministry also denied the allegations of torture, saying this is explicitly forbidden by Israeli law. Even General Security Service investigation procedures outlaw "physical or psychological torture," the ministry said.

Furthermore, confessions are valid as evidence only if given freely, the ministry noted. If a defendant claims that his confession was extracted by force, the court immediately investigates this claim, and the Justice Ministry also investigates all complaints of improper behavior by the security forces. Those found guilty of such behavior are subject to administrative and/or criminal penalties.

Finally, the ministry said that Vannun has been kept in solitary both to protect him from other prisoners, many of whom consider him a traitor.

and to foil his repeatedly stated intention of divulging more classified information at the first opportunity. In any case, the ministry noted, both the UN Commission on Human Rights and its European equivalent have ruled that solitary confinement does not violate international treaties forbidding torture.

"Israel is now conducting historic negotiations for peace with the Palestinians," the ministry's response concluded. "These negotiations have led to many significant changes, including the release of some 5,000 Palestinian prisoners... the withdrawal of IDF forces from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho region, and the establishment of a Palestinian authority in these areas... It would be appropriate for Amnesty International to take note of these impressive developments."

Amnesty world report, Page 4

Iraq is worst, but human rights abuses abound throughout Arab world - Amnesty

EVELYN GORDON

HUMAN rights violations continued to be widespread throughout the Arab world, with Iraq one of the most egregious offenders, according to the annual Amnesty International report released yesterday.

"Thousands of suspected government opponents were detained, and tens of thousands of others who had been arrested in previous years continued to be held," Amnesty wrote in its section on Iraq.

"Torture remained widespread. Hundreds of detainees 'disappeared,' and the cases of more than 100,000 people who 'disappeared' in previous years remained unsolved. Hundreds of judicial and extrajudicial executions were reportedly carried out."

The majority of those detained and tortured were Shi'a Moslems, some of whom were released only in exchange for large cash payments to the authorities.

Torture was "routine and systematic," including "prolonged beatings, electric shocks, breaking of limbs, burning of the skin and mock executions."

"Mass executions of suspected government opponents held in prisons were reported... with scores of people executed in September and October alone," the report continued.

"Some were said to have been executed by firing squad... others were allegedly burned to death... [Families] were forbidden from mourning in public... Scores of non-combatant men, women and children were extrajudicially executed during attacks by government forces on civilian targets... Scores of refugees confirmed that the government was continuing its policy of deliberately targeting non-combatant civilians."

Following is a summary of Amnesty's report on other countries in the Arab world.

Egypt: Thousands of people, mostly "members or sympathizers of banned Islamist militant groups," were detained - many without charge or trial, but some after "unfair trials" by military courts.

"Torture of political detainees was routine," with methods including

blindfolding, suspension by wrists or ankles in "painful positions," the use of electric shocks, beatings and burning with cigarettes. "Several detainees died, apparently as a result of torture... Dozens of people were killed by the security forces in circumstances suggesting that some had been extrajudicially executed."

"Armed opposition groups were also responsible for grave human rights abuses, including deliberate killings of dozens of civilians."

Iran: "Political arrests, torture, unfair trials and summary executions continued to be reported throughout the country," the report said.

Those subjected to "arbitrary arrests" included suspected government opponents, Shi'a and Sunni clergy and journalists. One cartoonist was sentenced to 10 years in prison for a caricature of a soccer-playing amputee which allegedly resembled the Ayatollah Khomeini.

Trials were almost always held in camera, with hearings lasting only a few minutes and defendants denied access to legal counsel. Methods of torture, generally aimed at extracting confessions, included beatings, suspension and blindfolding.

"Judicial punishments of flogging and amputation of fingers continued to be implemented... Several government opponents were abducted or killed outside Iran in circumstances suggesting that they may have been victims of extrajudicial executions involving Iranian officials... The threat of extrajudicial execution extended to many Iranian nationals abroad, as well as to non-Iranians, such as the British writer Salman Rushdie."

Jordan: There were "allegations of torture," including beatings and "threats of sexual assault."

Eight defendants brought before the State Security Court claimed their confessions were extracted under torture, but the court allowed the confessions as evidence and refused to let the prisoners be examined by a doctor of their choice.

Some 270 security detainees were arrested and "almost invariably

[held] in prolonged incommunicado detention; 'access to lawyers and relatives was 'routinely' denied. Publishing 'news harmful to the king or the royal family' or articles 'containing a personal insult to heads of Arab, Islamic or friendly states' is illegal."

Kuwait: Hundreds of political prisoners arrested in 1991 on charges of collaborating with Iraq remain in custody.

"Four Iraqi nationals were reported to have been severely tortured, resulting in one death. The fate and whereabouts of at least 62 detainees who 'disappeared' from custody in 1991 remained unknown."

In August, all "unlicensed organizations" were dissolved, including "one of the country's leading human rights groups."

Trial proceedings "fell short of international standards for fair trial; some defendants were denied access to lawyers before trial and defendants tried by the State Security Court were denied the full right of appeal."

Lebanon: "Dozens of suspected political opponents were arrested by government forces and Syrian personnel stationed in Lebanon."

Forty supporters of Gen. Michel Aoun were arrested in March for distributing leaflets opposing the Syrian presence. "New reports of torture and ill-treatment were received," including reports of beatings and the use of electric shocks. "Nine people were killed by government forces during an apparently peaceful demonstration... Dozens of [other] people were deliberately killed, apparently for political reasons, but there was rarely sufficient information to determine those responsible."

Three newspapers were temporarily closed and four journalists and a cartoonist were indicted because of their work.

The South Lebanese Army held over 200 prisoners at any given time, with no access to their families or the Red Cross. Many were believed to have been tortured.

Saudi Arabia: "Scores of people were arrested for their political, human rights or religious activities," according to the report.

These included people who criticized government policies and corruption in the royal family, as well as Christians guilty of "the peaceful expression of their religious beliefs."

All known Shi'a Moslem political prisoners were released. However, "Reports of torture continued to be received, and at least two detainees died, allegedly as a result of torture or ill-treatment. The judicial punishments of flogging and amputation continued to be imposed."

Syria: Several thousand political prisoners remained in custody, most held without charge or trial. Over 500, however, were tried before the Supreme State Security Court (SSSC), "whose procedures fall far short of international fair-trial standards."

All had been denied access to lawyers before their trial; in some cases, lawyers weren't allowed to meet with their clients in private even after the trial began, nor were they permitted to call defense witnesses.

"Torture of detainees continued to be reported," comprising several different types of beatings. Many defendants before the SSSC claimed they were tortured into confessing, but "the court did not order medical examinations for such defendants or investigations into their allegations."



Jordan's King Hussein (right) arriving in Alexandria yesterday to a warm greeting from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The two leaders later discussed Amman's accelerated peace process with Israel and played down differences with Syria over Jordan's decision to go it alone. "We are on the verge of conducting serious negotiations on the ground between the two concerned parties (Jordan and Israel) sometime this month and we hope we will cover all the subjects on the agenda ratified in Washington," Hussein later told a joint news conference. (Reuters)

Shahal says Shaath visit just rumor

DAN IZENBERG

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday that to the best of his knowledge, senior PLO official Nabil Shaath had not visited Jerusalem.

Shahal was responding to Knesset motions on two alleged visits by Shaath to Jerusalem. One report referred to a visit on June 20. The other involved a claim by Yehoshua Matza (Likud) that Shaath had arrived on the Temple Mount by helicopter and prayed in the early hours on Tuesday.

Matza said he was given the information by Palestinians who had prayed with Shaath.

"I asked the police inspector general and he told me he knew nothing about it," said Shahal. "We called the commander of the Jerusalem District. He also knew nothing. I said: 'Maybe it did happen. Let's call the prime minister's military aide, Maj.-Gen. Danny Yatom. We'll speak to the prime minister.'"

"I said to [Yatom]: 'Tell me, they're telling us such and such and that it was a white helicopter.' The police have white helicopters. I said maybe Nabil Shaath asked for a lift and they gave him one. I called. They checked. The police helicopters were busy with other things."

"I said maybe it was a private helicopter, even though there is no landing pad on the Temple Mount, because they said it landed on the Temple Mount. Maybe. We went to ask the companies with helicopters. Maybe someone took one. No, they know of no such thing, it didn't happen."

"I spoke to Matza twice. The police inspector-general also spoke to him twice. By the way, the police inspector-general told Matza something I would like to repeat today: 'Change informants or tell us who he is so we can check with him.'"

Arafat remarks on aid leave US 'disappointed'

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

THE US was "disappointed" by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's recent criticism of the international community for not supplying promised economic aid to the Palestinians, a State Department official said yesterday.

Arafat, who made the remarks during his weekend visit to Gaza, has ignored repeated US and international calls to construct an accountable financial institution to disburse the \$2.4 billion in aid to the autonomous areas, the official added.

"I'd also note that we've been repeating the same message over and over for several months, that it is in

the Palestinians' interest to set up viable institutions and procedures which will gain the confidence of the donors," the official said.

The official characterized last week's meetings here with chief PLO financial officer Abu Ala as "good consultations" that the US believed drove home the imperative of financial accountability.

The US has pledged \$500 million over the next five years to the Palestinian self-rule authority. However, like the other donor countries, it has refused to transfer the funds to the PLO without its conditions being met.

Celebration for Bostoner rebbe draws Ovadia Yosef

HERB KEINON

SHAS mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef was among those who last night attended a celebration for the Bostoner Rebbe, Rabbi Levi Yitzhak Horowitz, a member of Agudat Yisrael's Council of Sages and the only hassidic rebbe who has so far participated in an anti-government demonstration.

Nesanel Peterman, one of Horowitz's aides, said Yosef's participation at the ceremony in Jerusalem marking 50 years since Horowitz became the Bostoner rebbe is an indication of the rebbe's unique ability to communicate with everyone.

Horowitz and Yosef, Peterman said, are on the opposite ends of the political spectrum.

Horowitz, the first English-speaking, American-born hassidic rebbe, has a following of some 3,000 fam-

ilies in Israel, and another 10,000 families in the US, Peterman said.

Horowitz made aliya in 1985, and now divides his time between the two countries.

Peterman said Horowitz spends his winters in Boston to be near the thousands of Jewish college students in the Boston area, a number of whom look to him for advice and guidance.

In addition to a number of educational institutions in Jerusalem, Bnei Brak and Boston, Horowitz runs ROFEH, a charitable public agency in the heart of the Harvard Medical Center complex that provides shelter, support, counseling, referrals and interpreters to Jews around the world who need medical treatment of advice.

Four years' jail for weapons sale to Arab

A 28-year-old Petah Tikva woman was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and three years' probation by the Tel Aviv District Court for selling weapons to an Arab resident of Lod.

In October of last year, Simona Biton acquired two Uzi sub-machine guns, along with magazines and bullets, knowing they had been stolen from a storage room near army headquarters in Tel Aviv. She took the weapons to Lod, where she sold them to Nizar Ladawi for an unknown sum of money.

The prosecution claimed that Ladawi passed one of the weapons to a Gaza man, who gave it to Salim Ma'ufi, who was wanted by the security forces. Ma'ufi was later killed in a clash with soldiers.

The man who passed the weapon to Ma'ufi, Ibrahim Abu Ghali, was convicted of weapons charges and sentenced yesterday by the same court to three years' imprisonment and two years' probation.

(Iim)

SPNI youth leave for seminar in Germany

Forty youths from the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel's young hikers groups are leaving tomorrow for a two-week international environmental seminar in Germany.

The youths, 10th and 11th graders, from Jerusalem and Petah Tikva, were invited by the Saxony environment minister to attend the seminar,

which focuses on the deaths of the forests.

They will study, together with their European peers, subjects such as effects of pollution on trees. The SPNI members will also explain their activities here and present their work as a model for other groups.

Liat Collins

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Communion Symphony 2nd movement - Avni
Concerto for Violoncello, "Kaddish" - Kaufman
Mark Drobinsky, violoncello

Monday, July 11, 8:30 p.m. YMCA Hall, Jerusalem
Patron: Mayor Ehud Olmert
Symphony No. 4, Opus 98 in E minor - Brahms
Candide Overture - Bernstein
The Moldau - Smetana
Communion Symphony, 2nd movement - Avni
Concerto for Violoncello, "Kaddish" - Kaufman
Mark Drobinsky, violoncello

Wednesday, July 13, 8:30 p.m. Noga Theater, Tel Aviv-Jaffa
Patron: Mayor Roni Milo
Symphony No. 4, Opus 98 in E minor - Brahms
Candide Overture - Bernstein
The Moldau - Smetana
Communion Symphony, 2nd movement - Avni
Concerto for Violoncello, "Kaddish" - Kaufman
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Tickets are available from the AACI offices in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, from ESRA in Herzliya and Ra'anana and The Jerusalem Post Funds, HaRav Kook 10, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-233986 and at the door from 7:30 p.m.

The Management of The Jerusalem Post

offers sincere condolences to
Shai Amir

on the death of his
Father ז"ל

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a kind and gracious lady

DORIS MORRISON

and extend our deepest sympathy to
Andy, Charles, Kappy, Elaine
and the family

Sam and Jean Rothberg

Woman killed, three hurt on roads

A HOLON woman was killed yesterday when she crashed into a parked tractor while driving in the city.

The woman, 49, became trapped in her vehicle and was removed by Fire Department rescue teams. A Magen David Adom team declared her dead at the scene. Police have not yet determined the cause of the accident, but suspect she may have suffered a heart attack.

Near Beit Shalom, three people were moderately injured in a head-on collision yesterday. The were brought to Hillel Yoffe Hospital in Hadera.

Police said one of the cars involved in the accident veered into oncoming traffic for unknown reasons. Traffic on Road 70 was blocked for two hours because of the accident. (Iim)

A big family
increase
risk of
Down's
syndrome

A big family increases risk of Down's Syndrome

JUDY SIEGEL

JERUSALEM researchers have found that the risk of having a baby with Down's Syndrome is 15 percent higher for women of any age who have already had six children or more.

Until now, the most widely-accepted risk factor for this chromosomal abnormality was the mother being over 35.

The research was based on 37,110 births that took place at Shaare Zedek Hospital between 1981 and 1989. The authors of the study recommended that this factor — having had many children — be considered by the Health Ministry in setting its policy of free amniocentesis (the genetic test to detect Down Syndrome) for pregnant women.

At present, only women over 35 get a free test; younger women with more than six children should also be eligible for it, the authors said. No comment on this was available from Health Ministry director-general Prof. Mordechai Shani.

Dr. M. Schimmel headed the Shaare Zedek research team, which also included Drs. C. Hammerman and E. Kornbluth and Prof. Arthur Eidelman. The research was first presented at the Conference of Pediatric Research in Seattle two months ago and last month at a European conference.

Schimmel presented his findings yesterday at the First World Congress on Labor and Delivery being held in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile, conference president Prof. Daniel Weinstein of Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem reported on his findings that Ethiopian Jewish women who live in Israel give birth to babies almost twice as heavy as those giving birth in Ethiopia.

In their native country, he explained, they suffer from malnutrition, anemia and inadequate prenatal care and they have seven or eight deliveries; the average baby weighs only two kilos at birth. Here, the mothers' diet is much improved, as is medical care during pregnancy, resulting in normal-sized infants.

Some 1,000 doctors, nurses, and midwives from 50 countries are participating in the multi-disciplinary conference, which closes this afternoon. The organizers were disappointed that Dr. Fathi Arafat, head of the International Red Crescent Society and brother of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, did not attend, though he had indicated he would do so. Sources said he apparently did not want to precede his brother to Jerusalem.

Yoram Globus starts work on soap opera in Hebrew

LIAT COLLINS

IF you're into lust, power, and greed and held your breath through weekly doses of *Dallas*, *Dynasty* and *Cyprus*, prepare to be hooked on another soap opera — this one in Hebrew. Work has begun on a 26-episode Israeli soap called *Ramat Aviv Gimmel*.

The program's creators are Yoram Globus and Yoel Zilberg, the program's producer, who wrote the script together with Michal Shalev. The series will be produced in Hebrew and dubbed into other languages. The foreign-language version will be called *Mediterranean Affairs* — and the emphasis will clearly be on the "affairs."

The story line is based on the power struggles of wealthy Israeli families whose heroes get caught up in financial and personal dramas motivated by unchecked lust and desires, according to the program's publicist. Preparation for shooting at the Golan Group Studios in Neveh Ilan is going ahead while negotiations are being conducted with local television stations, according to publicist Chana Sadan-Shelah.

Italy, Spain, Mexico, and Argentina have already bought the rights to the nascent soap, she said.

"Auditions are expected to begin in the next couple of weeks and then the shooting can start," Sadan-Shelah said. Although the stars will have to be beautiful, in keeping with the genre, they will not necessarily be professional actors, she added.

Cyprus president coming for private visit

Jerusalem Post Reporter

CYPRUS President Glafcos Cleridas is due to arrive for a three-day visit on Monday. Accompanying Cleridas will be Cyprus Foreign Minister Alecos Michalides and a number of parliament members, including Cleridas' daughter, Katie. Although his visit is described as private, Cleridas will meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and President Ezer Weizman.



A teenager from the former Soviet Union who came to Jerusalem last year alone, greets her mother, who arrived for a visit yesterday. The girl is one of some 1,000 teens from the CIS in a Jewish Agency program to study for one to three years in Youth Aliya facilities. The Agency is bringing 720 of their parents here this summer for tours and courses in Judaism and Zionism. (Elhanan/Scoop 80)

Sheba Hospital to set up medical facility in Azerbaijan

JUDY SIEGEL

SHEBA Hospital officials yesterday signed an agreement with the government of Azerbaijan to set up a Western-style hospital in Baku.

Azerbaijan's health minister, Ali Isanov, came here to sign the agreement, which is a cooperative project involving US and Israeli investors (Makewell in the US and Witkowsky and Zeth Investments in Israel).

In the first stage, well-heeled

Azeris will come to Sheba for cardiological treatment and heart surgery, neurology, ophthalmology, hematology, hemato-oncology, bone-marrow transplants, rehabilitation and other specialties.

The first group of patients is due to arrive here shortly.

In the second phase, a \$30 million hospital will be established in Baku, the capital. The Azeri authorities will

provide the building and prepare it according to the specifications of Sheba staffers.

Sheba doctors, nurses and other experts will provide the know-how, while the investors will equip the facility and cover manpower costs.

When Azerbaijan was a Soviet republic, residents received their major medical care in Moscow.

But today, as an independent state,

Azerbaijan wants to have its own medical facilities. The country has a population of seven million, with four million in Baku and its environs.

The Sheba project is expected to expand to Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and other former Soviet republics that also lack medical services. Medical and paramedical teams from Azerbaijan will arrive soon to undergo training at Sheba.

Reserve officer charged with committing armed bank robberies

RAINE MARCUS

HADM Noked, a lieutenant-colonel in the reserves, was charged yesterday in Tel Aviv District Court with committing six armed bank robberies.

Noked, 46, of Or Yehuda, was seriously wounded during a shoot-out with police after the last robbery, in Hod Hasharon in April. He was charged with stealing NIS 41,000 from a Bank Hapoalim branch in that incident. Following medical treat-

ment, he was placed under house arrest, but now the prosecution is demanding his remand until trial.

Police allege that Noked committed five other robberies in the Tel Aviv area during 1993-1994. Noked denies all the charges, including those relating to the last robbery following which he was shot.

His defense lawyer, Menahem Rubinstein, said police are trying to

"pin on my client all bank robberies that occurred during the past two years."

According to the indictment, last March Noked robbed two banks a few kilometers away from each other in Ramat Gan over a four-hour period, snatching a total of NIS 65,000.

A month earlier he is accused of seizing NIS 28,000 in a robbery on another Ramat Gan bank. In October,

1993, he allegedly took NIS 133,000 in a heist on a Tel Aviv branch of Israel Discount Bank.

In most cases, read the charge sheet, Noked escaped in the same van, but on one occasion, after a robbery on the city's Sheinkin Street, he used a bicycle to escape.

According to the indictment, Noked threatened tellers with a pistol, but did not fire at bank employees.

Argument flares over fate of last Ashdod sand dune

LIAT COLLINS

THE Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and the Housing Ministry traded accusations yesterday over construction plans near the Ashdod sand dune, in anticipation of Sunday's discussion of the issue in the special construction expediting committee.

SPNI officials have accused the ministry of "using the back door" to discuss plans for the city's Tet-Zayin neighborhood, southwest of the sand dune.

"Building in that area will block

the winds which supply the dune with fresh sand," SPNI spokeswoman Orli Nevo said. "The plan will cause a gradual drying up of the dune."

Ministry officials, for their part, repeated promises not to build on the dune and accused the SPNI of making false accusations to gain publicity.

"The dune must be preserved, and the submission of the plans for the neighborhood is only facilitate building in an area defined by all the relevant bodies as being outside the sand dune's boundaries," ministry

spokesman Amit Dobkin said.

"However, the ministry warns that in the not too distant future there will be a serious lack of housing in Ashdod, which is rapidly developing," he said. "This means alternative measures must be taken, such as changing the town's statutory boundaries [to enable building in what is currently outside the city limits]."

"The SPNI denounces the Housing Ministry's actions to present plans for the Tet-Zayin neighborhood," Nevo said. "Following the

Environment Ministry's intervention, Housing Minister Binjamin Ben-Eliezer promised from the Knesset plenum to reach an agreement over construction in Ashdod without hurting the dune."

The group called on the government, and in particular the 69 Knesset members who signed a petition to save the dune, to take immediate action to prevent any new plans going through before the committee established to study the dune had finished its work.

Beilin, Leket discuss their differences

DAN IZENBERG

DEPUTY Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin and acting Jewish Agency chairman Yehiel Leket will meet in the next few weeks to discuss their differences on the future of the Zionist organization and Israeli-Diaspora relations.

The two appeared yesterday before the Knesset immigration and absorption committee to present their views on these issues.

Beilin denied Leket's charges that his call to disband the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization and his statement that Israel no longer required Diaspora donations contributed to the decrease in current Jewish funding for Israel.

"Donations have fallen for objective reasons, because of the recession in the US and enthusiasm has cooled after the big immigration of 1990," said Beilin.

He compared the controversy over the indispensability of the agency and the WZO to the circumstances leading to the defeat of the Histadrut old guard. "The Histadrut collapsed because it had degenerated and was too conservative to adapt to changing circumstances," said Beilin.

He added that "the vast majority of Diaspora Jewry are very removed from us and what keeps them apart is the establishment... The Jewish Agency is a concrete expression of the lack of connection between Israel and the Diaspora. And the WZO does not attract Jews to Israel and becomes more irrelevant."

Beilin repeated his call for a world Jewish fund to which the government of Israel and Israelis would contribute and for the establishment of a worldwide Jewish organization to which all Jews could belong regardless of whether or not they contributed money.

Leket said there was consensus within the Jewish Agency and the WZO regarding the need for organizational reform. "The debate [with Beilin] is over what changes to make. I don't believe it can be done in one fell swoop."

Leket charged that "intellectual circles believe that a strong and flourishing Israel is no longer the state of the Jewish people. They are leading to the logical conclusion that the Law of Return and the Jewish Agency and the WZO should be abolished."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three hurt in construction accident

Three workers were injured — one of them seriously — when scaffolding collapsed at a building site in Rishon LeZion yesterday. The three became trapped under the weight of the scaffolding and were removed and treated by rescue teams. Police are investigating the accident. *Itim*

Villager gets five years for molesting girl

A Kfar Billin man, 43, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment yesterday for sexually molesting a nine-year-old girl. He also received a two-year suspended sentence. *Itim*

In sentencing the man, Haifa District Court Judge Micha Lindenstrauss said the courts should stiffen sentences given to child molesters in light of the increase in such crimes.

Man drowns at Gan Hashlosha

A 29-year-old eastern Jerusalem man drowned yesterday at Gan Hashlosha, in the Beit She'an Valley, after apparently entering a deep-water pool without knowing how to swim. Beit She'an police said there have been several incidents of people who cannot swim drowning in the site's deep pools, even though there are shallow pools for poor swimmers.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were jack of spades, king of hearts, nine of diamonds and queen of clubs.

Shahal reopens road near Latrun after closure for balloonist event

BILL HUTMAN

THE international hot air balloon competition being held near the Latrun Monastery has sparked some unexpected attention on the ground.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday ordered the road between the Latrun and Nablus junctions reopened after he was informed it was closed to all but those paying to attend the event.

Organizers wanted the road closed so they would have a way to make people pay to see the event, and Jerusalem Police Commander Aryeh Amit agreed to the move.

The Jerusalem police spokesman said the closure was done with the approval of the local council. He noted that while the event was private, it was partially sponsored by the Tourism Ministry.

Tourism Minister Uzi Baram visited the site on the opening day, Tuesday, when the road was closed between 5 and 7 in the morning, and between 5 and 7 in the evening, the times when the balloons lift off.

Visitors had to pay NIS 80 to enter. Area residents, however, were given special tags allowing them to attend for free.

Tens of thousands of persons have converged on the site to see the competition, which ends today.

Reduced Eilat vacation prices still can't compete with deals in Turkey, Cyprus

SUMMER SCENE

HAIM SHAPIRO

PRICES for Israelis in Eilat hotels have dropped due to competition from cheap hotel packages to Antalya and Cyprus, but it is apparently still less expensive to vacation abroad.

The Eilat Hotel Association announced this week that, in many cases, packages in Eilat were now cheaper than comparable packages in Antalya or Cyprus.

According to the information provided by the association, a three-night stay at a three-star hotel, with half board and air fare, would cost \$250 in Eilat.

A similar package in Turkey would cost \$299, while in Cyprus it would cost \$365, the organization said.

A similar package in a four-star hotel would cost \$320 in Eilat, \$348 in Antalya and \$411 in Cyprus, according to the same source. In a five-star hotel, the Eilat vacation would cost slightly more, at \$410, than the \$400 it would cost in Antalya, while the Cyprus vacation would be \$436, the association said.

When Jerusalem travel agent Mark Feldman checked the latest price announcements, he found that Eilat was not as cheap as it would seem from the information provided by the association.

In the three-star category, Feldman found that the price for a three-night vacation was \$404.50 per person at the Galei Eilat and \$345 per person at the Red Sea Sport Hotel — both prices considerably more than the \$250 quoted by the association.

On the other hand, Feldman found that a three-night package at the Avilida Hotel in Cyprus was only \$315, \$50 less than the price quoted by the Eilat hoteliers.

In the deluxe category Feldman said it was also still cheaper to go abroad. He noted that a three-night vacation at the Sheraton Hotel in Antalya came to \$475, while a similar package at the King Solomon in Eilat was \$495.

However, Feldman noted, even if the Eilat hotel prices were the same,

or even slightly lower than those in Antalya or Cyprus, it would still be cheaper to go abroad. That, he said, was because all the extras — the restaurants, shopping and touring — all cost more in Eilat than in other nearby destinations.

The head of the Eilat Hotel Association could not be reached for comment.

As if to confirm Feldman's remarks, Arkia announced yesterday it was lowering its fares from Haifa to Antalya, making them the same as those from Ben-Gurion Airport, even though the airline has greater maintenance costs at Haifa.

According to Arkia, a three-night package from Haifa to Antalya now starts at \$299.

The lower prices abroad are clearly hurting the Eilat hoteliers, who say

they expect 25 percent fewer Israelis this summer than last summer, with an expected average summer occupancy rate of about 75%.

To compensate for the dwindling numbers of Israelis, the Eilat is, for the first time, organizing summer charters from Europe. So far, two

weekly charter flights are expected from Germany, and one each weekly from England, Switzerland and Belgium.

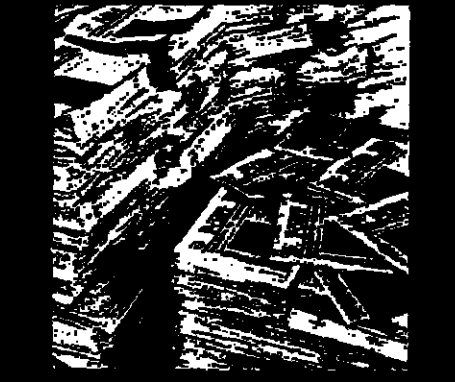
In addition, the Eilat tourism officials are optimistic about increasing the number of visitors from Eastern Europe. Last week, 110 travel agents from Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Russia visited the Red Sea resort as guests of El Al, Rehovot Tours and the local hotel association.

This winter, the Eilat is hope to see the first charter flights from Russia and Prague.

Last winter, almost 130,000 tourists from abroad came to Eilat on direct charter flights, or about 40,000 more than arrived during the previous winter season.

This coming year a similar increase is forecast, with about 170,000 charter passengers expected during the October to May period.

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Clinton first US president to visit Latvia

SALUTING the Baltics' struggle against decades of Soviet rule, President Clinton promised to push Russia "in a deliberate and firm way" to withdraw its last remaining troops from the region.

Standing before a crowd of 30,000 cheering Balts yesterday in historic "Freedom Square," the first US president to visit a Baltic state declared, "We will rejoice with you when the last of the foreign troops vanish from your homelands."

But he also urged the presidents of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania to adopt a "tolerant and inclusive approach" toward ethnic Russians living among them. Russia President Boris Yeltsin is trying to link the troop withdrawal to the rights of ethnic Russians.

Later in the day, Clinton flew to Poland for talks focusing on fears of Russian imperialism. He and his family were given a dozen pink roses on their arrival at the Warsaw airport.

In Riga, Clinton admonished people packed into the square: "Freedom without tolerance is freedom unfulfilled." Some in the crowd waved American flags.

Speaking near a 146-foot high stone obelisk called "Freedom Monument," Clinton celebrated the fledgling democracies.

Clinton shouted, "Brīvība!" "Vabadus!" and "Laisvė!" - Latvian, Estonian and Lithuanian for "Freedom!"

Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis, introducing Clinton, expressed appreciation for the United States' "unwavering support" for the Baltics during Soviet domination.

On his third visit to Europe this year, Clinton walked a delicate line: He is prodding Russia to finish its promised withdrawal from Latvia and reach a similar accord with Estonia, while urging the Baltics to meet some Russian demands.

"The progress made so far on troop withdrawals provides hope that the new democratic Russia - unlike the Soviet Union - can



President Bill Clinton gives the thumbs-up to the cheering, flag-waving Latvians as he is escorted by (from left) Estonian President Lennart Meri, Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas and Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis in Riga yesterday. (AP)

work with the Baltic countries for peace in the region," Clinton said. Ulmanis said he's convinced Russian troops will be gone from his country by an August 31 deadline. "We see no reason why it shouldn't be completed," he said of the withdrawal.

Clinton, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and their daughter, Chelsea, arrived in the Latvian capital under bright, sunny skies. Clinton stood at attention alongside Ulmanis as the Latvian Army Band played the American national anthem.

Thousands of well-wishers lined

the Clintons' motorcade path from the airport, waving bouquets, scarves and US flags.

Clinton said the United States will help Russia pay for the troops withdrawal by doubling the amount of housing vouchers going to Russian military officers resettling from the Baltics. The Baltic nations also will receive US aid to assist in their transition from domination to democracy.

"I will continue to do what I have done on this for a year and a half now, to push in a deliberate and firm way, and to offer all the incentives we can offer to continue

the troop withdrawals," Clinton said.

Estonia President Lennart Meri said it would be "a first day of a new Europe" if Moscow withdraws its troops by the end of summer. Asked if he was as hopeful as Clinton, the Estonian president did not respond directly.

Shortly before leaving Washington, Clinton called Yeltsin in Moscow. The Russian president said the troops would be out of Latvia as scheduled but expressed concern about housing for retired Russian military officers.

About 130,000 ex-Soviet troops

have pulled out of the Baltics over the past three years, including all from Lithuania. There are 2,000 Russian soldiers in Estonia and fewer than 10,000 in Latvia.

Clinton said the troop withdrawals should not be linked with concerns over treatment of ethnic Russians.

The seven-hour visit to Riga was the first stop on Clinton's week-long trip to four countries. The president also was to visit Poland before flying to Italy for the annual economic summit of industrialized democracies. The trip concludes in Germany. (AP)

Amnesty's world stays violent and abusive

THOMAS O'DWYER

SINCE the end of the Cold War, human rights groups have mushroomed in states where they could never have operated freely before, yet they are increasingly coming under fire from governments sensitive about their new image. Amnesty International says in its latest annual report, published today.

"Human rights defenders often became the first victims of governments trying to build a good human rights image abroad and fearful of the damage activists can do to that image," the London-based human rights organization said in a comment on its report faxed to *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

In the 350-page report on 151 countries for 1993, Amnesty records political killings in 61 countries, prisoners of conscience held in 63 states and 100,000 political prisoners detained without trial in 53 countries.

Amnesty, which considers the judicial death penalty a human rights violation, recorded 2,000 such executions in 33 countries.

The report calls on the United Nations to bring a conclusion, after nine years, the process of drawing up a comprehensive declaration to protect those who defend human rights.

In Europe, the former Yugoslavia tops Amnesty's list for rights abuses with 15,000 people, many of them prisoners of conscience, held in detention as a result of the armed conflict in Bosnia.

As well as recognized states, Amnesty increasingly singles out irregular forces engaged in armed struggles. It accuses such groups as the Irish Republican Army and the Ulster Volunteer Force of gross abuses, including the murder of 73 civilians in 1993.

Even open democracies such as France, Italy, Portugal and Spain are criticized for torture by police and prison officers. Amnesty says at least 24 people died in custody in Turkey as torture continues to be practiced widely.

However, major new democracies such as Russia and Ukraine were given a remarkably clean assessment, despite the widespread chaos reported there. Russian police were accused of causing the death of six prisoners and Ukraine was criticized for liberal use of the judicial death penalty.

Amnesty is particularly concerned about rampant human rights abuses in South America, where political killings and disappearances cost 1,000 lives and untold numbers of injuries across 15 countries. Colombia is singled out for its death squads and Brazil for the murders of street children and adolescents.

In Africa, political killings were the predominant violation, the report says. The Rwanda war erupted after the period covered by the report, but it records the deaths of ten of thousands in neighboring Burundi in similar Hutu-Tutsi tribal massacres. More than 4,300 died in pre-election political violence in South Africa in 1993, Amnesty says.

Nineteen Asian states gained black marks for widespread extrajudicial killings and disappearances, especially in Cambodia and Afghanistan. India's record in the Jammu and Kashmir dispute was particularly bad, with hundreds of illegal political executions and disappearances reported. Hundreds of prisoners were reportedly tortured - many fatally - in Pakistan. Ill-treatment of political prisoners was said to be rampant in China and Indonesia. China executed 1,400 people and another 2,500 remained under capital sentence at the end of the year.

Germany tops in immigration

GENEVA (AP) - Germany received the largest number of immigrants in the past two years, according to a United Nations report released Tuesday.

Germany's average of nearly 1.4 million immigrants a year was almost twice as many as the United States and Russia, the UN report stated.

North America and Western Europe remained a magnet for considerable numbers of immigrants - 1.75 million in 1993, and 2 million in 1992. Russia, still adjusting to the Soviet Union breakup, drew over 550,000 residents from former Soviet republics.

Germany's immigration surge in 1992 and 1993 was partly fueled by ethnic Germans from central and eastern Europe, mostly from Poland, Romania and the former

Soviet Union. An estimated 192,000 Germans, for example, arrived from former Soviet territory in 1992.

Foreigners entering Germany were largely from Romania, Turkey and the former Yugoslavia.

North America received more than 1 million new arrivals in both 1993 and 1992, some 800,000 of those going to the US each year.

An estimated 200,000 of these were economic migrants from China. A total of some 500,000 Chinese are believed to have illegally entered Europe, Russia and North America in the 1990s.

The number of asylum seekers in the European Union dropped 13 percent to 720,000 in 1992 from 1993, the report said. Policy changes in Germany and Sweden contributed to the decline.

Northern Yemenis capture south's second city

MUKALLA, Yemen (Reuters) - Northern Yemeni troops have captured the breakaway south's second city of Mukalla, journalists visiting the city confirmed yesterday.

Soldiers and residents said southern leader Ali Salem al-Baidh, who used Mukalla as his headquarters, had fled the city, about 620 kilometers by road east of Aden, the south's besieged capital.

Three government soldiers were killed in the battle for the city, the Sanaa-appointed governor of the southeastern province of Hadramawt, Saleh Obad, told journalists on a visit to Mukalla from the northern capital.

The journalists were flown from Sanaa into al-Rayyan airport just east of Mukalla, confirming that the north had captured the airport.

Two MIG-29 warplanes, one intact and the other damaged, were parked at the apparently unscathed airport.

Mukalla was a key military and supply base for southern forces fighting to take the south out of a unified Yemeni state formed by a merger with the north in 1990.

The south's armies, backed by a superior air force but heavily outnumbered by the army of the more populous north, have been rolled back by Sanaa's troops since war began on May 4.

A diplomatic source in Sanaa had earlier said no southern planes had been captured at the airport, and that aircraft operating from airfields further to the east had raided it on Tuesday after it fell to northern forces.

Mandela seeks peace in Angola

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - President Nelson Mandela enters the thicket of African diplomacy today by hosting talks on the 19-year Angolan civil war that has defied negotiations, elections and sanctions.

In his first foreign peacemaking effort since coming to power in May, Mandela has invited Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and two other African leaders to Pretoria to launch the intervention requested by the UN.

He said Monday he planned to meet over the weekend or early next week with Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi with the eventual goal of bringing dos Santos and Savimbi to the same table.

Chances of immediate success seem slim. Seven months of UN-led peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, have stalled and fighting continues in Angola.

Savimbi has rejected an election defeat to dos Santos and withstood UN sanctions barring weapons and fuel supplies for his Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebels. He also reportedly refuses to leave Angola because of security concerns.

In addition, Mandela and his African National Congress have past ties with the former Marxist Angolan government, while Savimbi's anti-communist rebels were once backed by South Africa's apartheid regime.

But Mandela also represents a new African optimism, backed by world powers, following the relatively peaceful transition in South Africa from white minority rule to his black-led government.

The power-sharing arrangement Mandela negotiated with the former white-led government might be particularly attractive to Savimbi, who is demanding a key role in Angola's post-war government despite losing to dos Santos in 1992 voting.

Along with dos Santos, President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique were invited to today's meeting.

Rains lash Karachi

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) - At least six more deaths have been blamed on the heavy rains in the southern port city of Karachi, the national news agency reported yesterday.

Most of the victims were electrocuted by live wires that fell along flooded roads, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported. The latest casualties have raised the death toll in the city to 12 over the last three days.

Nationwide, about 30 deaths this week have been attributed to the heavy rains. Karachi has received more than 100 mm (4 in.) of rain during the last three days.

Adams discounts IRA cease-fire in N. Ireland

BELFAST (Reuters) - Gerry Adams, president of the IRA's political wing, yesterday discounted prospects of a cease-fire by the guerrilla group in battle-scarred Northern Ireland, saying such talk was "wholly misinformed."

Speculation by politicians and the media that the IRA would call a truce in its 25-year war to end British rule intensified this week when police chief Sir Hugh Annesley said Republicans were seriously debating peace.

But Adams said in statement from his Sinn Fein office: "Present intense speculation about the possibility of an IRA cease-fire in this climate is unhelpful and wholly misinformed."

A special delegates meeting of Sinn Fein officials is expected to deliver soon a final verdict on a December 15 Downing Street Declaration on a peace settlement for Northern Ireland to end a war which has killed over 3,000 people.

Commentators said an IRA truce would aim at forcing Britain to nudge Northern Ireland closer to reunification with the Republic in a game of diplomatic chess behind the scenes since the Downing

Street plan was launched.

In his statement, Adams attacked Protestant gunmen, who oppose the IRA, and Unionist politicians who want to keep links with the British, accusing them of trying to derail the peace process while saying peace remains an achievable goal.

One Republican source said the Adams statement was "trying to calm tensions in the Republican movement between hawks who want to continue the campaign and doves using for peace."

Another said that instead of an IRA cease-fire, the Sinn Fein political wing, in a bid to join the peace process, might distance itself from IRA guerrillas - the cutting edge of Republican militancy - by renouncing all violence.

Prime Minister John Major has ruled out any part in peace talks by Protestant extremist groups because they have no electoral mandate, but has made clear that Sinn Fein could have a place at the negotiating table if it renounced violence.

Political sources in Belfast expect Sinn Fein's reaction to the Downing Street Declaration to be made in the next two weeks.

Officials arrested as Cambodian capital fears another coup

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) - A senior government official and the chief of police protection were arrested yesterday in connection with the weekend's attempted coup. Officials stayed away from their offices as fears of a second coup attempt swept through the capital.

Diplomats and aid agencies were warned of a possible coup attempt last night and Interior Minister You Hockry said armored personnel carriers would patrol the capital "as a precaution."

Authorities arrested Sin Sen at the airport yesterday as he was about to board a plane out of the country. You Hockry said, Sin Sen had been promoted just Monday, becoming one of four secretaries of state in the Interior Ministry.

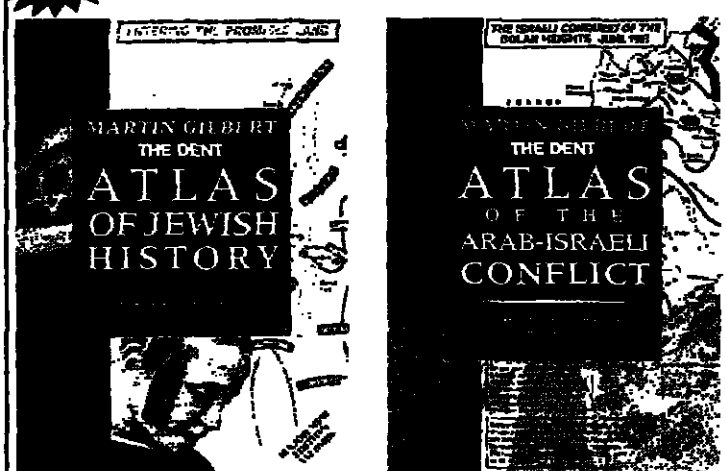
"He is implicated," was all You Hockry would say about him.

Armed guards blocked the streets around Sin Sen's house late yesterday as others searched inside.

You Hockry said the chief of police protection also was arrested in connection with Sunday's attempted coup, which was suppressed without bloodshed. He declined to identify the man, however, for fear of jeopardizing the investigation. Sources identified the chief as Teas Chhoy.

The arrests come three days after the alleged architects of the attempted coup, politician Sin Song and Prince Norodom Chakrapong - a son of King Norodom Sihanouk - were arrested and, in the prince's case, expelled.

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Here comes the bridal gown

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

VERY few local brides wear bridal outfits that are strictly their own. More often than not, the regal, elaborate gown adorned with lace, sequins, seed pearls and rhinestones comes from a rental agency.

There are two reasons for this. One is the cost - the purchase price of anything so lavish is just too exorbitant, especially for a one-time ailing.

Then there's the space problem. Closets in Israeli apartments tend not to have been designed to accommodate a garment so long and bouffant.

There's also less heartache in soiling a wedding gown that is going back to the store, than one that's staying in the family.

The off-putting factors in hiring a wedding gown are wearing something that may have previously been worn by as many as a dozen other brides; and not being able to keep the most significant memento from what is supposed to be the most important day in a woman's life.

But these factors need not apply now that Mori Lee, the veteran American company established 45 years ago in New York by Arthur Leibowitz and Jay Markowitz, is operating in Israel.

One of the largest bridal hire chains in the U.S. with central outlets in New York and Florida, Mori Lee also exports to Europe and Israel and is locally represented by M.L. Bridal Gowns.

Company policy with regard to Israel is to rent out only gowns that have never been worn before. Once a gown is returned, it is shipped abroad, but the bride is given the option of buying it.

The price tag, for those who want to buy, is about NIS 3,500; the cost of hiring is NIS 2,200.

M.L. operates two salons under its own name in Tel Aviv and also supplies gowns to other bridal salons in most parts of the country.

Also available for the bride who wants to dispense with the froufrou in favor of something more functional are white cocktail dresses with tailored jackets. These can be hired or purchased.

The Mori Lee catalog includes hundreds of styles ranging from full-blown opulence to sleek, classic elegance.

Constraints imposed on religious brides have also been taken into account, and many of the gowns are high-necked and long-sleeved.



One way to cut wedding expenses is to rent a bridal gown like this one from the catalogue of Mori Lee, a US-based firm.

Odds are, if you're British, you'll find something to bet on

SUBURBAN businesswoman Jenni Reid argued with her father-in-law recently about whether advances in science would permit men to give birth. She thought this was inevitable, but he laughed at her. In fact, he laughed long and hard.

So Reid did what any number of respectable, middle-class Britons might do: she telephoned her bookie. "I thought, 'I wonder if the bookmakers would think the same way, and they might give me some very good odds,'" she said.

She was right. Oddsbroker Graham Sharpe of the William Hill Organization, which takes in about \$2.2 billion in revenue annually from British bettors, initially considered laying the odds of male mothering at 1,000,000 to 1.

But after talking with scientists and considering that "there are various definitions of a man and various definitions of giving birth," Sharpe said he finally agreed to accept a \$75 bet at 500-1 odds.

His written wager with Reid specifies that a "normal male with XY chromosomes" must give birth to a "living, viable child" before the year 2005.

With such propositions, Sharpe said, "You often have to look behind the request and ask, 'What do they know that we don't?'" But in this case - and most others like it in Britain - the answer is not much.

Britons wagered about \$9b. through bookmakers last year, reflecting one of the highest per capita gambling rates in the world, according to industry officials.

On the whole, predictably, the public did not beat the odds.

William Hill's betting-shop division pulled in about \$70 million in profits during a recession year, while its larger rival, the Ladbrooke Group, earned about \$120m. from retail gambling alone.

Most of the money flows to horse racing, dog racing and soccer pools, but the country's bookmakers encourage bets of all kinds.

Odds are posted on the likelihood that Elvis lives or that humanoids will be found on Mars.

Parents even wager on whether their young children will win a Wimbledon title or the British Open before their 25th birthdays.

Now the British government, after decades of hand wringing about this sort of profligacy, has decided to get in on the action.

A contract for Britain's first national lottery since the early 19th century, designed to create a new British millionaire each week, was

awarded in late May to a consortium dubbed Camelot.

Its operators hope to hold their first nationally televised million-pound drawing in November.

Camelot forecasts total revenue of about \$47b. by the turn of the century, with an estimated \$14b. earmarked for arts buildings and charities through a National Lottery Distribution Fund and another \$36b. expected as general tax revenue.

Such schemes have a long history here. But the last one didn't turn out so well; in 1826, treasury officials absconded with the proceeds, and the government hadn't dared to try again before now.

For established bookmakers who run thousands of retail betting shops around the country, the new national lottery poses an immediate competitive threat.

In the long run, though, they hope it will deepen the country's already healthy appetite for gambling.

They hope, too, for relaxation of laws restricting advertising by bookmakers and forbidding windows in their retail outlets, a law evidently designed to shield British eyes from the evils within.

Crimped by such rules, the bookmakers have taken to bizarre bets as a way of galvanizing public attention.

Odds are posted regularly on which television soap opera characters will marry or die horribly, which books will win prestigious literary awards and even on whether troubled Euro Disney will close before the Channel Tunnel linking Britain and France opens - eventually rated at 16 to 1.

The bookmakers say they are victimized occasionally by bettors with an inside track, such as a sound engineer at a London agency who made a killing because he knew a pop song he helped record would be promoted in a Levi's ad campaign and thus be pushed toward the top of the charts.

But the bookmakers say such bonanzas are fair enough; if they take the bet, it's their job to research the topic thoroughly.

Besides, most of Jenni Reid's gamblers are like Jenni Reid, the woman backing the prospect of a male giving birth.

Like gamblers everywhere, Reid has unbridled confidence in her own instincts. "I won't bet unless I'm absolutely sure, because quite honestly, I think gambling is a waste of money," she said.

(The Washington Post)

This US-made pickup is a powerful workhorse for the modern cowboy

MOTORING
JOEL GORDIN

GMC SONOMA PICKUP TRUCK. Engine size: 4,300 cc. Six-cylinder, multi-point injection. Horsepower: 165 at 4,000 rpm. Torque: 34.5 at 2,400 cc. Gears: automatic plus overdrive. Permissible loading weight: 666 kg. Loading box length: 2.250m. Width: 1.003m.

Price: From NIS 69,000 to NIS 87,000 (not including VAT), depending on cabin size and accessories.

PICKUP trucks are an American institution, like apple pie, baseball and Harley-Davidsons. However, unlike four-wheel drive vehicles, pickups haven't been adopted by yuppies. They remain a laborer's workhorse, the steed of the modern cowboy in the rural areas, the wheels of good ol' boys from Alabama to Nashville.

Until recent years, US-made pickups were priced out of our market and Israelis had to make do with European or Japanese models. But world currency fluctuations and a more lenient purchase-tax system for large-engined

vehicles now allow more Israelis to enjoy the Cheviets and GMCs which have been immortalized in hundreds of country-and-western songs.

The Sonoma has a more streamlined, attractive appearance than any of its competitors. It's available in both regular (front-wheel) and four-wheel drive. There is no five-seater, double-cabin model on offer.

THERE IS, however, an "extended cab" version - and this was the vehicle I tested. The front seat has seat belts for three passengers, although a long drive with three up front wouldn't be the height of comfort.

Behind the seats, in the rather cramped space at the back of the cabin, are two collapsible jump seats which can easily be folded into the side of the car, freeing space for storage.

Each seat is fitted with a seat belt.

Confusingly, the car's Transport Ministry license specifies that only two passengers (apart from the driver) are allowed in the vehicle. But the sales staff of Universal Motors, the local dealer, has assured me that this will be amended to specify that two children (under

the age of 14) can sit on the two jump seats, making a total of three adults and two children allowed.

There is additional storage space in pockets behind the front seats, in niches set into the inside of the front doors and in the hand-some glove compartment.

The interior is America, from the ample legroom to the superb air conditioner. Unlike European cars, the Sonoma doesn't take it for granted that every driver knows about gadgets like rev. counters (tachometers, to use the proper name).

The rev. counter is color-coded into three sections. When the needle is in the black area, it's okay. If it gets to the yellow the engine speed is reaching its upper limits. When it's in the red, the driver must ease off the gas, or cause damage.

The on-board high-tech will also spew out a slew of warning signs on the dash, ranging from one which alerts the driver to possible brake problems ("brake!") to another which simply reads "service engine soon." The automatic gear stick is not placed on the floor, but comes off the steering column.

MY ONE beef about the interior

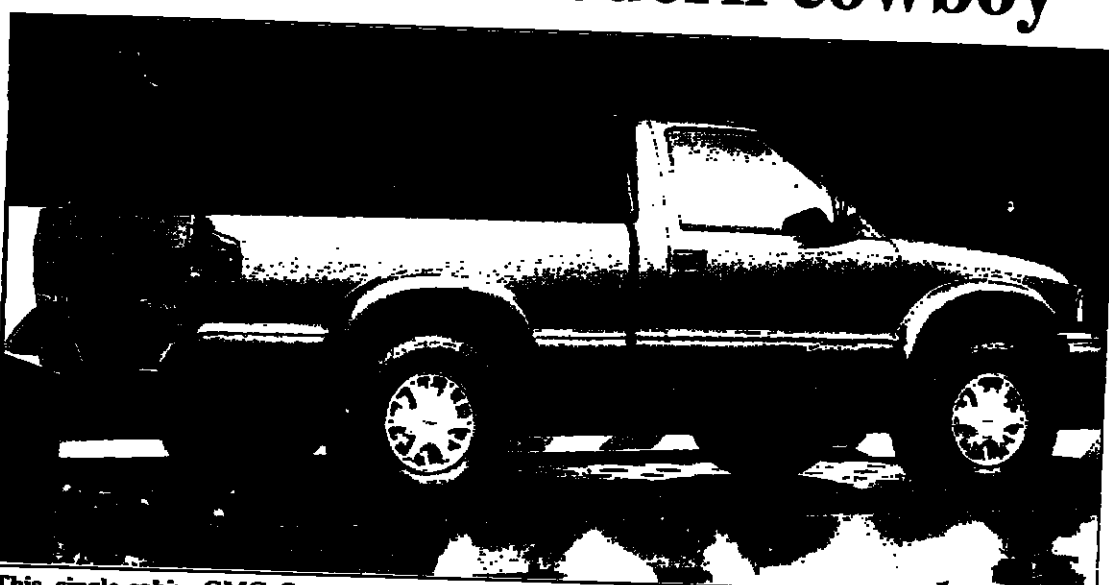
is the pilot light for the gears on the dash. It wasn't bright enough, and I had to strain to read it. The automatic shift has an overdrive, but because it is inadvisable to tow or drive off-road while in overdrive, there is also a "normal" drive mode.

In addition, there's a second-gear and third-gear mode which give more power, but less fuel economy. The gas consumption is not good to start with, considering the automatic gear and the 4.3-liter engine. No manufacturer's figures are available - but I wouldn't put the average better than 6 km/l.

The engine is quiet and the road-holding and suspension are comfortable and stable, even when the loading box is empty - something which is rare among European and Japanese-made vehicles.

When I applied the brakes, I noticed a momentary motor or clicking noise. After checking the manual, I realized this was because the standard anti-lock (ABS) brake system has been extended to all four wheels for even greater safety in an emergency situation.

In short, Sonoma is a powerful, driver-friendly comfortable truck



This single-cabin GMC Sonoma pickup is now an affordable vehicle for local cowhands.

with some useful safety features (although air bags are not available).

Unfortunately, there aren't many cowboys or good ol' boys in the Holy Land, Sonoma buyers here will be those who need a workhorse for rugged, out-of-town assignments.

Most Israelis will prefer

even an inferior double-cabin model, and not only because it's cheaper. They can use it as the family car, while obtaining all the tax breaks associated with commercial vehicles.

The single-cabin Sonoma model with the most basic accessories costs NIS 69,000 (not including VAT). The extended cabin ver-

sion is priced at up to NIS 87,000, this top figure including power windows, central locking, electrically-controlled side mirrors, leather-embossed steering wheel and cruise control. Automatic gears and ABS are standard in all versions.

The four-wheel-drive model starts at NIS 95,000.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

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COOKER - NIS 300. 09-441077. NS.
HOW TO WIN CONTEST PRIZE - by Lee Keith. NIS 15. ring, silver American Indian nickel. NIS 40. 04-228788. cves. NS.
SIMPLE SUMMER DRESSES - NIS 10: tailored blouses. NIS 5: corduroy jeans. NIS 15: all small women's sizes. 04-255121.
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tion. NIS 300. 02-931904.
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EICHA AND KINOT - Rodcheim. NIS 70: 2 vol. "Horeb", Hirsch, like new. NIS 25: "Bereshit". Art Scroll. NIS 25. 02-860502.
CURTAIN ROD - brown wood, 1.95 m. by L. Hyman. 09-625289.
PRIVATE HEBREW LESSONS - evenings. 04-854417.
STEEL SAFE - small to medium. 02-291164. 02-5053620.
WOODEN DESK - and chest of drawers, in good condition. 02-430827. 02-3352720.
USED PHOTOCOPYING MACHINE - for genealogical research center. Tail. 06-599657 (day). 06-599833 (eve).
GAMES TABLE - NIS 50: large floor-standing lamp. NIS 100: ceiling pendant. NIS 50: spot light. NIS 25. 02-351759.
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520340. NS.
SCRABBLE GAME - English, good condition. 02-810254. 02-253019. NS.
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SECOND-HAND FRIDGE - up to NIS 250. 02-257802 (D). 02-893919 (w).
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The Orient House scandal

AT first glance, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's indignation at the opposition's charge that he is wavering on the indivisibility of Jerusalem seems justified. Both he and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres have repeatedly, clearly, and forcefully said that Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Israel, and that it will stay undivided under Israeli sovereignty. Moreover, the Oslo Declaration of Principles stipulates that the fate of the city will not be negotiated during the two years of the interim period.

Indeed, Rabin and Peres can hardly be blamed for demanding to know what more they can say to reassure Israelis they have no intention of satisfying Yasser Arafat's wishes by relinquishing part of Jerusalem to the Palestinian entity. But nor can the public be blamed for treating these solemn pledges with skepticism.

One reason for doubt is that Rabin has made similar pledges in the past, only to ignore them as soon as they threatened to impede progress in the "peace process." Rabin has said that Israel would withdraw from the agreement with Arafat if the PLO failed to abrogate its covenant; or if Arafat's own Fatah perpetrated terrorist acts; or if Arafat called himself "president of Palestine"; or if Orient House in Jerusalem acted as the Palestinian Authority's foreign ministry. He has denied the existence of secret agreements with the PLO and a secret letter about Jerusalem, vowed no terrorists convicted of killing Israelis would be released, denied that known murderers would be allowed to join the Palestinian police, and that Arafat has been promised a Jerusalem visit. All these pledges, promises, and denials have proved false.

Another disquieting factor is the Palestinian talent for unobtrusively establishing "facts on the ground." The techniques recall those used by the pre-state Yishuv, and seem just as effective. Orient House in Jerusalem is a typical example. Begun as an information center and an unofficial headquarters of the Palestinian half of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the Madrid peace

talks, it has gradually turned into the foreign ministry of the Palestinian entity - precisely the kind of transformation Rabin warned would cause Israel's withdrawal from the agreement.

This development is puzzling, not only because it mocks Rabin's warning, but because it belies what Faisal Husseini told *The Jerusalem Post* only last week. When asked about his plans for Orient House, he insisted that the offices there would restrict themselves to services to the Arab community in Jerusalem, and that all political and diplomatic activities on behalf of the Palestinian Authority would emanate from Gaza or Jericho.

Yet on Tuesday, MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar (Likud) brought to light a letter dated June 30 and signed by Husseini on Orient House stationery, which was distributed to all diplomatic representatives in this country by Ivory Coast Ambassador Jean-Pierre Boni, dean of the diplomatic corps in Israel. In it Husseini gives specific guidelines to "all countries present in this area," wishing to greet "President Arafat" on his arrival in Gaza. These include a request to have the interested governments send directly to Orient House, by fax, the names of the diplomatic representatives wishing to meet Arafat, and details of their vehicles, drivers, and accompanying entourage.

That the dean of the diplomatic corps should treat Husseini's request as if it had come from a foreign minister of a sovereign state may be improper, but it is hardly surprising. The Israeli government, to which Boni is accredited, seems to do no less. For all its warnings that centers of activity in Jerusalem on behalf of the Authority will be shut down, and despite Rabin's threat to "call the whole agreement off" if Orient House acted as a foreign ministry, the fact is that the Israeli government is tolerating, if not encouraging, such activity in Jerusalem.

It is only natural, then, that despite Rabin's protestations the public views these developments as steps toward turning eastern Jerusalem into the capital of a Palestinian state.

Abusing the messengers

AMNESTY International's annual report is a catalogue of man's inhumanity to man, an unfailingly bleak assessment of how little mankind has learned in its march to civilization. It is of course the nature of such reports to be depressing, for their agenda excludes all that is good or progressive in international behavior.

Amnesty has often been criticized - sometimes fairly - for being unduly alarmist about the status of human dignity in the world. Because many of its case histories are compiled from those who have axes to grind with the governments they accuse, Amnesty can be open to charges of one-sidedness, exaggeration, and even of disseminating outright lies. The organization also includes the judicial death penalty in its campaign against human rights abuses, and this has raised the complaint that democracies like the United States, with a fair and open judicial process, can be unfairly listed alongside dictatorships in "body counts" of dead citizens.

Despite these criticisms, Amnesty's heart is probably in the right place most of the time, and its reputation as an independent watchdog for the oppressed - greater than that of any comparable organization - is mostly well-earned. Though often accused of trendy-lefty attitudes, it is free

from the suspicion of government influence that often bedevils United Nations attempts to enforce respect for human rights. Its best recommendation is that some of the nastiest governments in the world desist it.

The most disturbing aspect of this year's report (covering 1993) is Amnesty's complaint that human rights activists and defenders are increasingly subjected to the kinds of torture, imprisonment, and abuse that they are trying to investigate or prevent. Amnesty points out that, as human rights issues have increasingly become an important element in international relations, activists in the field are seen as undermining the hypocritical facade of respectability created by their governments.

This is an advance on the principle of shooting the messenger who bears bad news. Instead of improving its image by eliminating human rights abuses, many a government prefers to window-dress it by locking up or killing the lawyers, teachers, journalists, and doctors who uncover and monitor such abuses for organizations like Amnesty. Ironically, the most guilty governments are among those praising their own human rights records in order to burnish their image in the eyes of wealthy countries like the US or the Europeans.



Deluge of dud dollars

FACED by the threat of the world being flooded with virtually detection-proof counterfeit dollars, President Clinton has given top priority to a completely redesigned \$100 bill.

Millions of forged \$100 notes have been churned out by printing presses in Iran and Iraq as they compete to dominate this market. With the aid of imported technology and state-of-the-art equipment, the notes look so genuine that even experts using modern forgery-detection equipment have been fooled.

What has alarmed the White House is that in the past year and a half, the rate at which these bills are being produced has doubled every three months.

Due to the quality of this "Khomeini-Saddam Hussein" currency, as it is called in the financial underworld, criminal "wholesale" dealers are buying it at four times the price of "ordinary" forged notes.

Street vendors and black-market operators have to pay 70 percent of the face value for this superior product, leaving them with a "mere" \$30 profit on each note - a hitherto unheard-of low return in this lucrative trade.

A manufacturer of specialized equipment who deals with official government money-printing agencies worldwide, advising them about the latest anti-forgery tools, told us: "In both Baghdad and Teheran, I became suspicious when told that their cash printing facilities 'were strictly out of bounds.' This was odd, as I had modernized both institutions personally and probably know more about them than the people who operate them."

"As did the CIA and European intelligence services, I realized that the Iranians were the first to go into the forgery business at government level. Using their oil wealth, they hired top-rank experts to produce a perfect dollar

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

note by lavishly bribing even the most reluctant individuals from Europe and North America. Through dummy trading companies they bought the necessary equipment, chemicals, paper, etc., to hide the identity of the buyers."

THE WHITE HOUSE was warned over two years ago that Teheran was aiming to destabilize

In a bid to destabilize the economy of 'Satan USA', Iran and Iraq's printing presses are working overtime

the economy of "Satan USA."

A decision was then taken to completely redesign the \$100 bill, but there were bureaucratic hold-ups. President Clinton, however, is now being forced to take drastic action because of the vast increase in these sophisticated forged notes.

Continued our source: "Saddam Hussein heard about this operation and went into competition with his arch-foes in Teheran. His motive likely was different: to buy goods and arms barred by a UN blockade."

"Both countries are using their vast drug trade based in the Bekka's valley and their underworld financial networks spread like a spider's web all over the globe as a channel to distribute the money." Proof of the international na-

ture of the business came to light two years ago, when sharp-eyed experts using advanced equipment at the London branch of Bank Ha-paolim discovered a number of these fake bills in a consignment from Israel.

The bank was alarmed that normal inspection procedures had failed to detect the false notes. The Israel Police was informed. It immediately contacted Interpol and the US Treasury.

The same thing happened recently in Paris, where exchange shops in tourist areas, particularly along Boulevard St. Michel, were "burnt" when they accepted what they were certain were authentic dollar notes.

In both cases, the distribution source of the dud dollars was traced to Beirut. From there the trail was lost. But it almost certainly led to the Bekka's valley. At this stage, the US Treasury decided to speed up the creation of a new \$100 bill.

As the issue reaches a point of crisis, plans for the new bill are today well advanced. We were informed: "The situation has been worsened by the fact that both Iran and Iraq are buying vast quantities of arms from the former Soviet Union. To pay for this in cash their forged dollar printing machines are working 'round the clock. Little wonder that I wasn't allowed to see them, but I have good friends there..."

The American authorities are trying to keep information about this rapidly increasing forged notes business quiet until the new dollar is issued. We were told: "They have to do this lest a panic-stricken rush to get rid of all \$100 notes destabilizes the world currency market."

The writers are authors of the best-selling *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and over a dozen other books on the Middle East.*

No, Mr. Peres

HILLEL NEWMAN

WHEN Israel's Students' union asked for membership in ESIB, the umbrella organization for European student unions, it never imagined what would follow.

The importance of the Austria-based European Student Information Bureau and the potential of working with other national unions led the Israeli students' union (NUIIS) to request membership in ESIB.

All that was needed was for the other European national unions to accept NUIIS with a two-thirds majority vote.

The criteria for acceptance to ESIB: the union seeking membership must be a national one; it must be democratic and financially independent; it must be in a European country.

The NUIIS, a strong national union which represents 100,000 out of 110,000 Israeli students, meets the first two criteria. The only place for doubt might be the NUIIS's being in a European country. But by all international terms of reference, Israel is accepted as part of Europe.

THE FIRST time the subject of NUIIS's membership was brought up before the ESIB board (in Sep-

As Israel's students can tell you, the country still needs an information effort

tember 1993), it was obvious nothing would go smoothly.

Some countries cited the fact that there was no peace between Israel and the Arabs and no foreseeable solution to the Palestinian problem as a reason not to accept the NUIIS.

But there were some promising factors. ESIB director Richard Hill gave support and encouragement to the NUIIS's membership bid. Other strong allies were the Austrian National Union, OH, and Britain's National Union of Students. But at the next convention, in Warsaw, on April 26-29, when Israel's bid was to be put to the vote, the latent antagonism surfaced.

It became clear that some countries were against Israel's membership, regardless of the fact that nearly all international bodies recognize it as being part of Europe. Among the leading opponents were Switzerland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Ireland.

Luxembourg "never had time" to speak to the Israeli delegates, although it had ample time to stress its opposition to all who would listen. The Irish delegate's reasons ranged from "women's issues" to the "peace process. Now that there was a chance of peace, Israel could at last find its place among its neighbors - certainly not among the Europeans.

But the real antagonism, surprisingly, came from the Swiss National Union. Its representative, Rieger Gallus categorically stated that he wasn't sure Israel had the right to exist. He asked the Israeli delegation, in public, whether its request to join ESIB wasn't an attempt to "run away" from the Israeli-Palestinian problem.

It may be true, he added, that the UN approved the establishment of the State of Israel - but the UN, of course, is totally controlled by the international "pro-Jewish forces."

Naturally, if Israel doesn't have the right to exist, it doesn't have the right to belong to ESIB.

The Netherlands was just as negative, for reasons which were unclear.

The German students, luckily, didn't have a vote, owing to their lack of a national union. But they wouldn't have voted for Israel. The German students in ESIB are virtual pacifists. Interestingly, their strong humanitarianism has led them to adopt an anti-Israeli stand. As stated by one German representative, Israel is now an oppressor and an environment contaminator (the worst manifestations of the 20th century in the student mind). It is amazing how fascism and humanitarianism have led them to the same conclusion.

Let us not forget that today's student leaders are tomorrow's political leaders.

FOREIGN MINISTER Shimon Peres is said to have stated that Israel no longer needs an information effort.

If the story of the NUIIS bid to become a member of ESIB is any indication, we need one very badly.

The saga took place just 3 km. away from the Warsaw Ghetto, after the beginning of the peace process.

The writer is director of international affairs of the National Union of Israel Students.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE GOLAN

Sir, - Just over two years ago my wife and I had the pleasure of hosting Avigdor Kahalani, now a Labor MK, as a guest speaker in our house in England. Mr. Kahalani went to great lengths in explaining to the audience the strategic importance of the Golan Heights and their paramount role in the defense of the Israeli "soft belly" of population and industrial centers down below and he was most convincing.

However, at a rally in Jerusalem marking the end of the four-day tractor procession by Golan residents protesting against the government's policies, Kahalani publicly threat-

ened to quit "if the government withdraws from the Golan without a referendum even if that would cost him his Knesset seat." With all due respect to the MK, this is like closing the stable door after the horse has bolted.

In order not to be merely rhetorical, Kahalani should implement his threat before withdrawal from the Golan, thus preempting such a disastrous step. His choice is not whether to have a Knesset seat or not, but rather whether his loyalty is to the party regardless, or to his country and his people.

MOSHE KAHTAN
Epsom, England.

ROBERT FISK'S 'BEIRUT TO BOSNIA'

Sir, - We, like David Bar-Ilan, took exception to Robert Fisk's documentary, "Beirut to Bosnia" (Eye on the Media, June 3). After the series aired on the Discovery Channel, ADL wrote to John S. Hendricks, Discovery Channel Chairman and CEO, criticizing the program's historical inaccuracies and distortions. We urged the Discovery Channel to provide air time to a balanced, historically accurate presentation of the complexities of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and of the progress towards reconciliation.

In his response to ADL, Mr. Hendricks wrote: "I regret that we did not

better alert our viewers to Mr. Fisk's unique perspective on the Middle East."

Mr. Hendricks proposed that ADL provide suggestions and expertise for two upcoming programs on the Middle East, including a documentary "which offers a point of view which contrasts with that of Mr. Fisk." ADL has agreed to work with Discovery on these projects.

ABRAHAM I. FOXMAN,
National Director,
ADL
New York.

REALIST

Sir, - I object to your paper calling everyone who opposes and demonstrates against the Declaration of Principles or any peace accord with the Syrians either "rightists" or "right-wingers."

I may be a right-winger because I

am a capitalist or because I believe in minimal government, but I oppose the DOP and any conceivable "peace accord" with the Syrians because I am a realist.

LEWIS ALSTER

THE LANGUAGE OF MUSIC

Sir, - I want to object to something that appeared in Michael Ajzenstadt's interview of June 20 with Israel-born conductor Asher Fish.

In associating the fact that Mr. Fish's orchestra in Germany employs only a few foreigners and that the orchestra displays a "homogeneous tone quality," it is falsely implied that one necessarily requires the other. In my experience, a musical blend is achieved by excellent musicians who know what they want, in conjunction with inspired musical leadership from their conductor.

Music is a language shared by all musicians worldwide and enables people of varying cultures to express art in perfect harmony.

KEN COX
(Principal Trumpet, Israel Symphony Orchestra, Rishon LeZion)
Jerusalem.

DEMONSTRATION COSTS

Sir, - During recent demonstrations of yeshiva students in Jerusalem, a lot of litter was thrown and many dustbins were burnt.

I suggest that the expenses incurred by the Jerusalem municipality in the clean-up operation and the replacement of the dustbins should be covered by the Ministry of Education from the government allocations to the yeshivot whose students caused the filth and damage in Jerusalem, and not by the Jerusalem ratepayer.

E. VOGELSDORFF
Tel Aviv.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT

LURIE'S WORLD



"Soon we'll need a bigger pot, eh?"

A long-distance father now wants to get close

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie,
When my children were young, I was rarely at home. My work took me away both physically and spiritually. My marriage was very shaky, so I was happy about the absence.

When my wife and I finally divorced, the children were very angry with me and avoided visiting me. They were then in their teens.

Now they are all married, with children of their own. Two live in Israel. The one who moved to the US (where I now live) keeps his distance from me, but we do have occasional contact. The ones who live in Israel want nothing to do with me.

I have come here to try to patch things up. What's the best way?

Foreign Father
Tel Aviv (Tulsa, Oklahoma)

Dear FF,
Don't get your hopes up too high. Your children may feel it's too late for you to turn up wanting to embrace some kind of family ideal. As a father, you checked out when they most needed you. Undoubtedly, this had a profound effect on them.

But if you are sincere in your longing for them, the best way to show it is by proving it. Be relentless in your courting. Be a real grandfather to your grandchildren. Offer assistance.

Explain what motivated you when they were growing up. Show some true remorse. Ultimately, it's up to your children whether or not they let you into their lives again.

Dear Ruthie,
Several months ago, my son married a divorcee with two young children. I was very welcoming to her, though I would have preferred it if he had chosen a single woman without a ready-made family.

My problem is that I feel my kindness is being taken advantage of. I find myself babysitting her children every time she and my son want to be alone.

As luck would have it, my daughter-in-law's mother doesn't

live in this country, and her ex-husband's mother is incapacitated. What can I do?

Stepped-On Step-Gran
Somewhere in Israel

Dear Stepped-On,
You can say no.

No one has the power to take advantage of us. We give others that power. You are afraid that your son and daughter-in-law will think less of you for refusing to be at their beck and call. Perhaps they will. If so, you must be willing to pay that price - or continue to babysit without resentment.

But it's far more likely that they won't think any the less of you. And babysitters looking to earn a few shekels are easy to come by.

Watch how fast they find one when you are unavailable.

Dear Ruthie,
My husband just got a great job offer, which would mean our leaving Israel - at least for the next few years. The problem is that our youngest son has one more year of army service to complete. I feel terrible about leaving him on his own, with no family to visit when he's on leave. I would be willing to sacrifice the job on his account, but my husband really wants to take it. Is there a solution?

Mother Up In Arms
Beer Sheva

Dear Up In Arms,
One solution is for your husband to go on ahead. You could stay here for the remaining year of your son's service, taking the time to close up your house without the usual pressure of time. Your husband, too, could use this period to get settled in his new job and set up house. During the year, each of you could visit as much as finances allow.

But consult your son. He might not be as troubled by the move as you are.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Another way to travel - without home comforts

TRAVEL TIPS
HAIM SHAPIRO

THE SOCIETY for the Protection of Nature in Israel is offering foreign tours for those who like to hike and are willing to sacrifice a little comfort in order to do so. Each group has an Israeli guide and, aside from a tour to the Himalayas, which is for very good hikers only, participants do not have to have special athletic ability.

Tours include eight days in Cyprus for \$775; 17 days in the Dolomites in northern Italy for \$2,295; 15 days in Scandinavia for \$2,250; and 25 days in Nepal for \$3,150. Prices include round trip airfare and breakfast, with picnic meals provided during full-day hikes.

TSABAR, WHICH specializes in arranging hotel accommodation in Israel for Israelis, has published a guide which includes hotels, excursion suggestions and attractions.

One of the special deals being offered is a stay at the Mediterranean Nubeia vacation village in Michmoret, for NIS 130 a night (NIS 80 for children), including half board.

The company also offers package tours abroad, including a six-night package in Majorca starting at \$675, and a six-night package in Sicily, starting at \$575, both including airfare and half board.

THE NIRVANA Hotel at the Dead Sea is offering free accommodation for up to two children,

staying with their parents. The hotel has a full range of children's activities planned for the summer, along with the usual health and beauty care for adults. Another feature, for those who can't leave the office behind, is full business services, including computer, fax and current stock market information.

A THREE-DAY excursion to EuroDisney is available from Yossi Tours for \$670. The price includes airfare, three nights at a hotel in Paris, and a two-day pass to the amusement park.

TICKETS FOR Hoverspeed hovercraft between England and continental Europe are being sold by Saviv Haolam through local travel agents. The cost is \$47 for a one-way passage between central London and Paris. Amsterdam, Brussels, Antwerp or Rotterdam.

RIMON TOURS is offering a seven-day stay in London for \$539, including airfare and breakfast. The package, which is based on El Al's special Tuesday fare, costs \$35 more per person for those leaving on Sunday or Thursday.

A TOURIST can stay in Finland for \$300 a week, according to Finnair. The Finnish national airline reminds would-be visitors that in the summer the sun never sets in the far north, allowing more time for sightseeing and entertainment.



On Mahe island a young woman produces ceramic pots; after years of political strife, the Seychelles archipelago has regained its fabled serenity. (Werner Braun)

Rare spot of natural beauty

TRAVEL
MARK HEINRICH

THERE were fears of paradise lost when an Indian Ocean archipelago renowned for its rare serenity and nature was buffeted by a leftist coup that led to years of political turmoil.

But the Seychelles managed to shake off the serpent of strife with its idyllic ambience intact. Stable democracy returned and the Seychellois now concentrate on preserving their tradition against a more common threat - mass tourism.

A necklace of 115 granite isles and coral atolls draped near the equator, 1,620 kilometers east of Africa, the Seychelles stand out for having all the attractions of a tropical getaway but few of the usual hazards.

There are pure white-sand beaches fringed by coconut palms, limpid turquoise seas filled with fluorescent fish to enchant scuba divers, lush countryside carpeted with cinnamon trees, vanilla, insect-eating pitcher plants and other exotic flora.

But there are no dangerous animals, no hurricanes, no malaria or other tropical diseases, grinding poverty, violent crime or special-interests in ripping off tourists.

The 70,000 Seychellois form a harmonious, racially rainbow society descended from African slaves, Arab, east Indian and Chinese traders, and French and British colonists.

It's a gentle, laid-back Creole culture where people smile at strangers and patronize the same beaches and bistros as tourists - no apartheid-like walls between white rich and black poor as in many other tropical destinations.

"The rat race hasn't reached the Seychelles yet," Andre Rassool, a rental-car manager, said of the islands, proclaimed a century ago by an English colonial general to have been the biblical Garden of Eden.

President Albert Rene, who seized power in a 1977 coup, broke the dominance of rich planters and playboys and became a kind of folk hero by redistributing land and income and creating free education and health care.

In this welfare state today, even ramshackle dwellings on rain-for-

est dirt tracks have a telephone, television, running water and a Japanese car parked outside.

In 1991 Rene reinstated the multi-party system inherited at independence from Britain in 1976, and breezed to a 58 percent victory in elections with Commonwealth observers.

The restoration of democracy ended years of turbulence that almost ruined an exclusive tourist trade launched with the 1972 opening of the international airport on the main island, Mahe.

Rene, grandson of French settlers, became prime minister under President James Mancham at independence but overthrew the jet-setting bon vivant with a squad of Tanzanian-trained rebels in a virtually bloodless coup.

In 1981, mercenaries disguised as a South African rugby club tried to enter Mahe for a counter-coup, but airport customs officers found guns in their luggage, touching off a shootout. The mercenaries fled by hijacking a plane back to South Africa.

Three subsequent coup plots were foiled in the 1980s. Anti-Rene bombings rocked the islands for a period and the leader of opposition exiles was mysteriously shot dead in London in 1986.

Close to strategic sea lanes, the Seychelles were also a haunt of spies during the Cold War era.

VISITORS TO the Seychelles today could hardly imagine such a serene, graceful society was ever prone to extremism.

You will see matrons sweeping roads with palm-frond brooms, girls in smart blue frocks and boys in cream shirts and crimson shorts walking to class in rural schoolhouses.

Lilting Creole music drifting from homes, seafood restaurants and quaint general stores along

the roadways and beaches provide a mellifluous soundtrack to daily life.

The Seychelles have both preserved their fragile natural heritage and escaped Third World poverty by rigorously curbing and avoiding total dependence on the mass tourism that has blighted other emerald isles.

Authorities have allowed only a few luxury hotels to sprout among numerous rustic guesthouses on the inhabited islands.

There are ecologically inspired curbs on the number of hotel beds, rental cars and motorized water sports. Motorbikes and camping are banned.

To avoid being swamped by package tourists, socialist authorities set prices beyond the reach of all but well-heeled travelers seeking natural beauty, not a flashy, noisy resort.

At the same time, the government under Rene has promoted fishing, agriculture and food processing so that only about 20 percent of the workforce is dependent on tourism. Per capita income is about \$5,000, far above the Third World norm.

The Seychelles offer great rewards for nature buffs.

They are one of two remote habitats in the world for the giant tortoise. Many islands are bird refuges with unique species like the white-throated rail, the Indian Ocean's last flightless bird.

Hikers in shimmering green hills will find flora existing nowhere else, including the tubular pitcher plant and the huge cocode-mer palm with cocoons shaped like the female pelvis.

A tightknit expatriate community includes a retired British silk-screen painter, a retired German perfumer who says he invented the scent called Opium, and a family from Sarajevo who pine for loved ones cut off in Bosnia's war.

"Like a lot of people, I came here some time ago and just never left," said Glynis Sanders, a British diving instructor. (Reuters)

Some fussy-eating silkworms name a town and a novel

BOOKS
JAMES MARCUS

SILK HOPE, N.C. by Lawrence Naumoff. Harcourt Brace, 352 pp. \$21.95.

THE title of Lawrence Naumoff's fourth novel alludes to the North Carolina community where the story is set.

In an opening aside, the author glosses the name: "In the mid-1800s, an American sailor who had spent time in China planted mulberry trees in the area, hoping to establish a silk industry. When the trees matured enough to harvest their leaves, he discovered that the silkworms he'd hatched would not eat the leaves. He'd planted the wrong variety of mulberry tree."

Naumoff never fills us in on the further consequences of the sailor's botanical blunder. Yet it's clear that the town flourished in spite of it, and this little parable sets the tone for the entire book. Like the aspiring silk baron, the characters spend half their time fine-tuning their expectations and the other half running afoul of them.

The prevailing mood is one of neither tragedy nor bitterness but of surprise, and since surprise is the operative principle of life as well as art, the world of Silk Hope seems continuous with our own.

The main beneficiary of all these surprises is a young woman named Frannie Vaughan. Indeed, the first of them - the death of her mother - has occurred only days before the story opens. Once the initial wave of grief subsides, Frannie and her sister Natalie are confronted with a dilemma.

They live on a farm that has been in the family for generations, providing the Vaughan women with an "ancestral sanctuary" since the time of their great-grandmother. The sisters are the sole proprietors, since their father abandoned the family decades before. Now, however, the spread of suburban development has begun to engulf their 12 acres, and various parties - including Natalie's yuppie fiancé, Jake - are pressuring the sisters to sell and get out.

NATALIE, THE more pragmatic

of the pair, is swiftly convinced that Frannie digs in her heels and resolves to hang on to property. This is the battle jolt between practicality and free spirit, or between the brain and heart: "You'd have to have brain that worked," Frannie muses at one point, "and I doesn't. My heart ... is in control of my life and always I been."

Frannie does get her wish at the end, and without hitting any of the plucky or inspirational notes a story would seem to dictate.

But Silk Hope is more than a tug-of-war over real estate. Equally concerned with Frannie's maturation, and with her debut as a family (and cultural) tradition that equates too much femininity with mental instability.

Can Frannie "break the curse" what happened in her family when women got too happy? Her too, the answer seems to be yes.

Yet there are many obstacles the way, not the least being the degraded quality of modern life. Values and emotions have been cheapened by the age that the values of a blue mood has acquired an archaic flavor: "Blue was a color from the past. Modern colors were blended and blurred as they all had new names that never existed before. The new color seemed to be in motion, while the color blue was still and deep."

A little nostalgia, of course, or be a dangerous thing. But the author suggests that there must be some way to honor the past without entirely submitting to it. No talia isn't the only pothole if author avoids. A style as ingenious as Naumoff's runs the risk of seeming coy or sentimental, and so does the division of narrative labor between Frannie (that is black sheep) and Natalie (that is straight arrow).

Episodes that would seem wacky and belittling are anchored by the novel's elegiac core: a whiff of fatalism keeps Frannie's courtship from growing saccharine. And hope, the novel's name sake, does what it's supposed to: keeping despair successfully (but just barely) at bay. (Newsday)

Sad tale of story-telling

LIFE-STYLE
MICHELLE GILBERT

IN Jonesborough, Tennessee, a sleepy hamlet near the western slopes of the Great Smoky Mountains, the pioneer legacy of storytelling has come to mean big business. So much so, some residents say, that the unassuming country life which gave birth to the tradition might be in jeopardy.

"Storytelling is not just entertainment. It can be used to enhance teaching, combat illiteracy, build cultural bridges, build self-esteem and preserve our family heritage," says Jimmy Neil Smith, a former high-school teacher who heads the Jonesborough-based National Storytelling Association.

"With the advent of TV and radio, we were losing the power of the old story. We want to reconnect, to use the human element as we move into a highly technical society."

Storytelling in the US is associated with the illiterate pioneers of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, people of mainly Scottish, Irish and Welsh extraction with a Celtic gift of gab.

Jonesborough, in those years a crossroads for westward migration, is home to the oral tradition left by those who passed through.

Smith's nonprofit group, with a membership that spans all 50 states and two dozen foreign countries, spearheaded a national revival of story-telling two decades ago, bringing prosperity to Jonesborough and its 3,000 residents.

That was all well and good until a month ago, when the story-telling association proposed a \$10 million downtown museum and education-conference center that is expected to draw 80,000 visitors a year beginning in 1996.

The project, on a 10-acre site, is being overseen by Ralph Applebaum, chief exhibit designer for the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

Smith says the center will stand as the "beacon for a story-telling revival throughout the country" by featuring tales of cowboys and Mississippi raccoon hunters as well as those of native peoples from Europe, Africa and Asia.

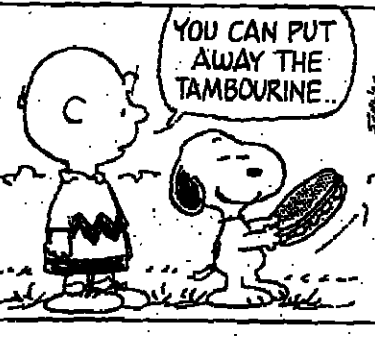
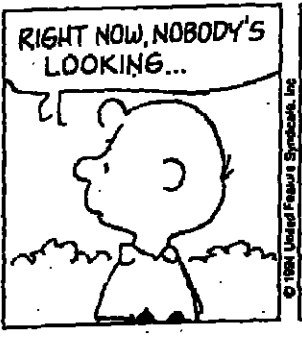
But local residents, who supported earlier plans for a smaller \$3m. center, fear the scale of the association's latest proposal will wind up turning their community into a virtual theme park.

"We could have trouble getting to church," worries Lyle Haws, a retired grocer who says the town's sole tourist attraction is a problem already.

Algerman Charley Moore says that if the town is to take full advantage of the center, the community may have to open up to motel and restaurant developers or forfeit commercial proceeds and tax revenues. (Reuters)

Peanuts®

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ



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THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD



From the Abadia to the Zuwawa

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Farmers protest land takeover

The trade deficit is expected to peak at \$6.4b. next year, as exports will continue ex-

The cabinet will hold five sessions on the budget. On Sunday, it will review economic assessments, budget performance and implementation of government budget decisions. On July 31, the cabinet will set the deficit, revenue and expenditure limits for next year. A week later, it will decide budget priorities, and on August 28, it will set spending ceilings for budget categories and decide on budget cuts. Finally, two days later, the cabinet will decide on any budget increases and on economic reforms before forwarding the budget to the Knesset on September 1.

"If the government does not go back on its decision to take over plots with only 30 days warnings and without compensating landowners to their satisfaction, we will go out into the field and prevent workers from doing their job," Eshet said.

Gal-Yam responded that focusing only on how much money is being spent on social welfare is a common mistake the social lobby makes. Instead, she suggested that economic reforms which improve market conditions can more

The government should take not only a three-pronged approach to budget priorities – limiting itself to infrastructure investment, employment and education – but also should supplement these with programs directed at reducing social inequality, She-treest said.

Kassar said the scope of El Al's acquisitions from Boeing had justified the demand for a reciprocal contract.

The Treasury also considers government wage-subsidies to employers as part of its social welfare

FORMER North American Bank director Joseph Nakash yesterday asked the Supreme Court to remove Jerusalem District Court Judge Ya'acov Bazak from his case, charging that Bazak had a "personal interest" in it.

Though the criminal trial has ended, the case has repeatedly been in court due to the official receiver's attempts to make Nakash pay money owed. This is the third time Nakash has tried to get Bazak removed.

According to Nakash's attorney, Amnon Shibolet, Bazak admitted that he had known for years the bank's former managing director, Moshe Stern, and said this should automatically disqualify him. Bazak, however, said that while this might disqualify him from sitting in judgment on Stern, there was no reason why this should affect his handling of other parts of the case.

Shibolet also said it had recently come to light Bazak knew one of the third parties connected with the case, but had declined to specify whom.

Attorney Yoseph Segev, representing the receiver, said Bazak's connection with Stern in any case was minimal: his wife's brother had once invested in a company which lost money lending to Stern.

Justice Tova Strasberg-Cohen will rule on the request at a later date.

Ethiopians here to talk business: A delegation of Ethiopian businessmen and economic representatives arrived here this week as guests of the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce. Abdella Basha, Ethiopia's under-secretary of industry and trade said the three areas which his country is most interested in are electrical goods, agricultural products and tourism.

South Africa's government of national unity insisted it was committed to investor-friendly economic policy following the shock resignation of highly-regarded Finance Minister Derek Keys. It also sought to allay lingering concerns in financial markets that the decision to step down by Keys might mask policy rifts within the cabinet. Reuters

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Key Representative Rates		
	Change	
US dollar ...NIS 3.0130	-0.59%	
Sterling ...NIS 4.8628	-0.41%	
Mark ...NIS 1.9111	+0.48%	

New York market indexes		
	Last	Change
DJ Industrial	3593.50	+21.50
DJ Transport	1894.50	+10.50
NYSE Index	2730.50	+11.50
NYSE Transp.	204.50	+0.50
S&P 500	246.50	+1.50
S&P 500 Ind.	211.50	+1.50
NYSE Comp.	242.50	+0.50

Unlisted Advances Declines		
	Advances	Declines
NYSE	1710	1005
Volume up on NYSE	287.7	
Volume down on NYSE	97.6	

Other stock market indexes		
	Last	Change
FTSE 100	2688.5	-18.5
London Stock	2688.5	-18.5
Hong Kong Hang Seng	10432.5	-118.5

Israeli stocks in NY		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
Amir F	1.50	+0.05
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Amir W	1.50	+0.05
Amir X	1.50	+0.05
Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

Dollar crosses (US)		
	Last	Change
Spot	3.0130	-0.59%
1 month	3.0130	-0.59%
3 months	3.0130	-0.59%
6 months	3.0130	-0.59%
12 months	3.0130	-0.59%

Labor rates		
	Last	Change
Hourly	1.50	+0.05
Daily	12.00	+0.40
Weekly	84.00	+2.80

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.		
	Last	Change
US 3 month	5.50	0.00
US 6 month	5.50	0.00
US 12 month	5.50	0.00
UK 3 month	5.50	0.00
UK 6 month	5.50	0.00
UK 12 month	5.50	0.00

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds		
	Last	Change
US 3 month	5.50	0.00
US 6 month	5.50	0.00
US 12 month	5.50	0.00
UK 3 month	5.50	0.00
UK 6 month	5.50	0.00
UK 12 month	5.50	0.00

Data communications and hardware maintenance by ASA Computer Systems Ltd.		
	Last	Change
US 3 month	5.50	0.00
US 6 month	5.50	0.00
US 12 month	5.50	0.00
UK 3 month	5.50	0.00
UK 6 month	5.50	0.00
UK 12 month	5.50	0.00

US commodities		
	Last	Change
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05

London commodities		
	Last	Change
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05
Wheat (CBOT)	1.50	+0.05

Spot market metals (US)		
	Last	Change
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00

New York metal futures		
	Last	Change
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00

London metal futures		
	Last	Change
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00
Gold (spot)	385.00	+2.00

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES		
	Last	Change
US dollar	3.0130	-0.59%
Sterling	4.8628	-0.41%
Mark	1.9111	+0.48%

MARKET		
	Last	Change
US dollar	3.0130	-0.59%
Sterling	4.8628	-0.41%
Mark	1.9111	+0.48%

MARKET		
	Last	Change
US dollar	3.0130	-0.59%
Sterling	4.8628	-0.41%
Mark	1.9111	+0.48%

TEL AVIV STOCKS		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
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Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

Multi-sided trading		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
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Amir X	1.50	+0.05
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Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

Two-sided trading		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
Amir F	1.50	+0.05
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Amir U	1.50	+0.05
Amir V	1.50	+0.05
Amir W	1.50	+0.05
Amir X	1.50	+0.05
Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

PARALLEL LIST		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
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Amir W	1.50	+0.05
Amir X	1.50	+0.05
Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

Property, Building & Agriculture		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
Amir F	1.50	+0.05
Amir G	1.50	+0.05
Amir H	1.50	+0.05
Amir I	1.50	+0.05
Amir J	1.50	+0.05
Amir K	1.50	+0.05
Amir L	1.50	+0.05
Amir M	1.50	+0.05
Amir N	1.50	+0.05
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Amir Q	1.50	+0.05
Amir R	1.50	+0.05
Amir S	1.50	+0.05
Amir T	1.50	+0.05
Amir U	1.50	+0.05
Amir V	1.50	+0.05
Amir W	1.50	+0.05
Amir X	1.50	+0.05
Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

Investment Companies		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
Amir F	1.50	+0.05
Amir G	1.50	+0.05
Amir H	1.50	+0.05
Amir I	1.50	+0.05
Amir J	1.50	+0.05
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Amir V	1.50	+0.05
Amir W	1.50	+0.05
Amir X	1.50	+0.05
Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

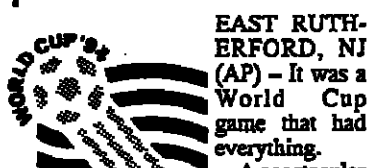
Oil Exploration		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
Amir F	1.50	+0.05
Amir G	1.50	+0.05
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Amir V	1.50	+0.05
Amir W	1.50	+0.05
Amir X	1.50	+0.05
Amir Y	1.50	+0.05
Amir Z	1.50	+0.05

Industrial		
	Last	Change
Amir	4.50	+0.10
Amir A	7.00	+0.10
Amir B	1.50	+0.05
Amir C	1.50	+0.05
Amir D	1.50	+0.05
Amir E	1.50	+0.05
Amir F	1.50	+0.05

Bulgaria rounds out quarter-finalists

International cast of challengers at Eisenberg tourney

ORI LEWIS



EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ (AP) — It was a World Cup game that had everything. An spectacular goal, a penalty, two expulsions and eight more yellow cards, extra time and a penalty shootout.

Even one of the goalkeepers couldn't take it. It had to be taken off the field and substituted.

Bulgaria ousted Mexico in the 1994 World Cup's first penalty shootout at Giants Stadium Wednesday after the two teams had tied 1-1 in regular play and extra time.

The first three penalties in the shootout were missed, but then Boncho Guechev, Daniel Borimirov and Jordan Letchkov netted for Bulgaria and only Claudio Suarez hit the target for the Mexicans, leaving a final tally of 4-2 for Bulgaria.

Alberto Garcia Aspe fired over the top and Marcelino Bernal and Jorge Rodriguez had penalties saved by Bulgarian goalie Borislav Mihalov. Bulgaria plays Germany at Giants Stadium Sunday, the same day Sweden battles Romania for a semifinal slot at Stanford Stadium.

On Saturday, Italy, extra time winners earlier on Tuesday, meets Spain in Foxboro in the first quarter-final. The Dutch play Brazil, the sole non-European survivors, in Dallas later that day.

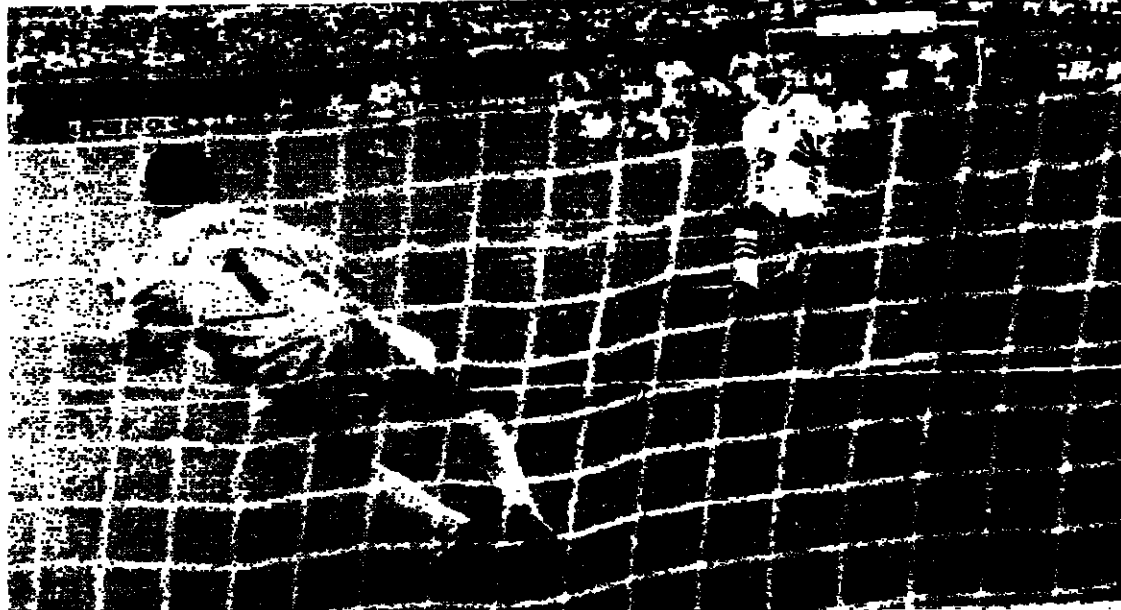
The final is on July 17.

Before coming to this tournament, the Bulgarians had not won a World Cup game in six visits. Now they are in the quarter-finals.

"We did not expect this at the beginning," said goalkeeper Borislav Mihalov, who saved three penalties in the shootout. "But we realize that we were better than we thought."

"I am going to kiss the entire Bulgarian nation," Mihalov said. "This is the proudest moment of my life."

The Mexicans, by contrast were



GAME-WINNER — Bulgaria's Jordan Letchkov (r) beats Mexican Goalkeeper Jorge Campos to score the winning goal from the penalty spot.

devastated. "It's going to be hard for me to overcome this. I can barely talk," said Garcia Aspe, who scored from the spot during regular play but then blazed the first penalty kick of the shootout over the bar.

Then he broke down in tears. With the vast majority of the 71,030 fans supporting Mexico, it was a tough defeat for their team.

"The surroundings made this almost a home match for Mexico,"

Bulgarian coach Dimitar Penev said. "It was a tough game for Bulgaria bearing in mind we had just had a hard one against Argentina."

Borislav Mihalov, who scored the first goal after only seven minutes, said the team was looking for its fourth victory in a row after 16 World Cup games without one success.

"We got our first victory, then our second and now our third," Stoichkov said. "We have three victories in

10 days. The Germany game is now next and everybody is happy."

Barcelona striker Stoichkov bulged the Mexican net with a powerful strike only seven minutes into the game after an immaculate defense-splitting pass from Ivaylo Jordanov.

But the Mexicans, aided by a helpful decision by Syrian referee Jamal Al-Sharif, leveled with an 18th-minute penalty from Alberto Garcia Aspe.

Italy rejoices, Mexico stoic

ROME (AP) — After three poor performances, star striker Roberto Baggio finally triumphed at the World Cup and Italian dailies yesterday quickly reversed their earlier criticism.

La Gazzetta dello Sport ran a banner headline saying "Italia: Baggiooooo!" and Il Manifesto wrote, "Forza Baggio" (Let's Go Baggio), referring to Baggio's religious practices.

Italians had nearly given up hope of defeating Nigeria at Foxboro, when with two minutes left, Baggio scored the goal that tied the game 1-1 and gave Italy a chance for victory.

Baggio came alive after the goal, and when Italy was awarded a penalty kick in overtime the striker tallied again sealing off the outcome.

"Italy Saved by the Pony Tail," wrote Il Giorno, referring to Baggio's hairstyle.

Fans celebrated into the morning hours whizzing around in cars or motorcycles, booing and honking and creating chaos.

Meanwhile, Mexicans celebrated even in defeat, as about 15,000 soccer fans gathered at a downtown monument following Mexico's 4-2 loss to Bulgaria in World Cup soccer.

Adan Gonzalez, 17, sat glumly at the base of the Angel of Independence monument, wrapped in a Mexican flag.

"We have to support them. We are Mexicans," he said. "Good or bad, we are with them."

But as more and more people gathered at Mexico City's symbolic center, spirits rose with cheers for the Mexican team.

People waved flags, chanted "Mexico," wore giant sombreros and painted their faces in red, white and green, the colors of the Mexican flag at the Angel, the 12-story monument to Mexican Independence.

Europe 7, South America 1

That's a World Cup scoreline that will reduce Argentina, Colombia and Mexico to tears. It will disappoint Nigeria and Cameroon, while the South Americans always will remember how close they got to breaking into an exclusive club.

The quarter-finals of the 1994 World Cup have a distinctly lopsided look. Seven European teams have

made it, the first time all but one team of the final eight have come from one continent.

The European contenders are Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Romania, Spain and Sweden. The lone outsider is Brazil, who, however, is the favorite to win an unprecedented fourth World Cup crown.

Spurs' fine increased, points penalty reduced

LONDON (AP) — Tottenham was hit with a record £15 million fine yesterday for making irregular payments to players, but the team had its points deduction cut from 12 to six.

A Football Association appeals panel also upheld the club's ban from next season's FA Cup.

Tottenham was originally fined £600,000, penalized 12 points for the start of next season and barred from the FA Cup when the FA handed out its sentence June 14.

Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar filed an appeal on grounds that the penalties were too severe and accused FA officials of waging a personal vendetta against him.

"Sugar gave us a personal assurance that there will be no repetition of this type of conduct at the club," the FA said in a statement after yesterday's ruling.

"Of all the many matters put forward by him on the club's behalf, one, in With a 12-point deduction, Tottenham faced the prospect of being relegated at the end of next season. With the penalty re-

duced by half, the club now has a better chance of staying in the Premier League. The team kicks off the new season at Sheffield Wednesday on August 20.

Tottenham pleaded guilty to 40 charges of illegal loans to players in the late 1980s, before Sugar was at the club. The financial infractions were revealed during Sugar's court battle with former chief executive Terry Venables for control of the club last year.

Sugar described the decision to increase the club's fine as "laughable."

"I was hoping that they would let us back in the FA Cup and do away with the points deduction altogether — maybe do it in the form of a suspended sentence," he said.

"We are very disappointed with the result of this appeal," Sugar added. "There is only one bright side to it. The six point reduction will at least secure us virtually in the Premier League next season."

But the exclusion from the FA Cup is still very unfair on our fans and players, especially as we are known as a Cup club."

Coles hits 3 HRs in Jays' rout; Saberhagen wins for Mets

BLOOMINGTON (AP) — A day after he dislocated his finger, seldom-used Darrell Coles hit three home runs and the Toronto Blue Jays routed the Minnesota Twins 14-3 Tuesday night.

Coles hit a two-run homer in the fifth inning and solo shots in the eighth and ninth. Coles had the second three-homer game of his career, having done it in 1987 with Pittsburgh. He became the sixth player this season to homer three times in a game.

Coles dislocated the little finger on his left hand Monday night in Kansas City. He began the game batting just .145 (8-for-55) with one home run and six RBIs.

Paul Molitor hit his second career grand slam and Joe Carter followed with his 18th homer of the season, highlighting a six-run seventh. Molitor also had two singles and a double.

Angels 10, Red Sox 3. Chris Turner, who came in batting just .138, went 5-for-5 and became the first California catcher ever to steal home, leading the Angels to a win at Fenway.

Turner doubled twice, drove in two runs and scored two. The Angels broke a 10-game losing streak against Boston, including seven defeats this season.

Chuck Finley (6-8), who had pitched three complete games in the last three weeks, went eight innings. He gave up three runs and six hits. Joe Hesketh (4-5) gave up five runs in 6 1/2 innings.

Tigers 6, White Sox 2. Frank Thomas hit his 30th home run and Jack McDowell struck out a career-high 11 as visiting Chicago won the nightcap for a split of their doubleheader.

White Sox 6, Tigers 4. Frank Thomas hit his 30th home run and Jack McDowell struck out a career-high 11 as visiting Chicago won the nightcap for a split of their doubleheader.

White Sox 6, Tigers 4. Frank Thomas hit his 30th home run and Jack McDowell struck out a career-high 11 as visiting Chicago won the nightcap for a split of their doubleheader.

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The Tigers won the opener 6-2 as Cecil Fielder and Tony Phillips homered in a four-run first inning.

McDowell (5-7) set a career best for strikeouts despite pitching only six innings. Three relievers finished up, with Roberto Hernandez pitching 1 1/2 innings for his ninth save.

Greg Gohr (2-1) lost for the first time in five starts this season.

In the opener, David Wells (2-5) gave up eight hits in his second complete game of the season. Scott Sanderson (7-3) had his three-game winning streak snapped.

Athletics 8, Yankees 7. Geromino Berroa hit a go-ahead, two-run homer off Greg Harris in the top of the seventh.

Ruben Sierra also homered for the Athletics, who won for the 10th time in 11 games. Matt Nokes homered twice and Danny Tartabull also connected for the Yankees, who have lost five of six.

Berroa's 10th homer of the season helped Oakland overcome a 7-6 deficit. Harris (3-5) was making his second appearance since signing with the Yankees.

Bob Welch (2-5) allowed one hit in 2 1/2 innings. Dennis Eckersley relieved with runners on first and second and one out in the eighth, and got Wade Boggs and Paul O'Neill on called third strikes.

O'Neill, who went 4-for-5 and raised his average .373, was ejected for arguing. Eckersley pitched the ninth for his 12th save in 17 chances.

Orioles 5, Mariners 2. Cal Ripken drove in two runs, Brady Anderson homered and Jamie Moyer got his first win since May 25 as Baltimore won at home.

Ken Griffey Jr. had his second consecutive hitless game for Seattle and has now gone a season-high 10 straight games without a homer. He still leads the majors with 32 home runs.

Baltimore has won three straight and nine of 12. Dan Wilson homered for the Mariners, who have lost three in a row after winning four straight.

TUESDAY'S NL RESULTS: New York 4, San Francisco 2; Los Angeles 2, Montreal 1 (10); Pittsburgh 3, Atlanta 1 (7, 1st); Philadelphia 4, Atlanta (2nd pld.); Cincinnati 9, Florida 4; Colorado 9, Chicago 6; Houston 3, St. Louis 1; San Diego 7, Philadelphia 2.

TUESDAY'S AL RESULTS: Detroit 6, Chicago 2 (1st); Chicago 6, Detroit 4 (2nd); California 10, Boston 3; Oakland 9, New York 7; Baltimore 5, Seattle 2; Toronto 14, Minnesota 3; Kansas City 10, Milwaukee 5; Texas 4, Cleveland 3.

Moyer (3-6) had won only one of his previous 13 starts since April 19.

Lee Smith struck out two in the ninth for his 28th save. Jim Converse (0-1) was the loser.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Padres 7, Phillies 2

Eddie Williams, who was playing semi-pro ball last fall after being out of the majors the previous three seasons, hit his first career grand slam for the host Padres.

Luis Lopez and Scott Livingston also homered to back Joey Hamilton (5-3), who won for the second time in five starts.

Williams, hitting .375 with five homers and 19 RBIs since being promoted from Las Vegas three weeks ago, homered off Bobby Manzana (4-3) with two outs in the fifth inning. An error by first baseman John Kruk made all the runs unearned.

Hamilton allowed one run and six hits in seven innings, with three strikeouts and no walks. He left after bruising his right knee in the seventh.

Munoz, who had won four straight decisions and was pitcher of the month for June, allowed nine hits and six runs, two earned, in six innings.

Mets 4, Giants 2

All-Star Bret Saberhagen allowed two hits over eight innings and hit a run-scoring double as New York won on the road.

Saberhagen (9-4) struck out eight and walked none while pitching a perfect game for six innings. Darren Lewis led off the seventh with his second home run of the season, and Dave Martinez led off the eighth with his third homer, making it 3-2.

The Mets took a 1-0 lead in the first on Jeff Kent's RBI single, and knocked out starter John Burkett (5-7) with a two-run sixth on consecutive two-out doubles by Ryan Thompson, Saberhagen and Jose

Vicino. It was Saberhagen's first career RBI.

John Franco pitched the ninth for his 19th save.

Dodgers 2, Expos 1 (10)

Raul Mondesi homered in the bottom of the 10th inning off John Wetteland after Montreal starter Jeff Fassero had retired 22 consecutive Dodgers hitters.

Wetteland (2-6) started the 10th and got Tim Wallach on a fly to right before

MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS

American League

BATTING — Thomas, Chicago, .373; O'Neill, New York, .373; Belle, Cleveland, .372; Lofton, Cleveland, .369; WClark, Texas, .359; Molitor, Toronto, .357; Fermin, Seattle, .335.

RUNS — Thomas, Chicago, 88; Lofton, Cleveland, 75; Canseco, Texas, 71; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 70; Belle, Cleveland, 69; Phillips, Detroit, 65; Baerga, Cleveland, 62.

RBIs — Fisk, Minnesota, 76; Carter, Toronto, 75; Canseco, Texas, 74; Franco, Chicago, 74; Belle, Cleveland, 73; WClark, Texas, 73; Sierra, Oakland, 72.

HITS — Lofton, Cleveland, 118; Belle, Cleveland, 113; Molitor, Toronto, 108; Thomas, Chicago, 106; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 103; WClark, Texas, 103; Palmeiro, Baltimore, 103.

HOME RUNS — Griffey Jr., Seattle, 32; Thomas, Chicago, 30; Belle, Cleveland, 25; Canseco, Texas, 24; MVAughn, Boston, 21; Fielder, Detroit, 19; Salmon, California, 18; GVAughn, Milwaukee, 18; Sierra, Oakland, 18; Carter, Toronto, 18.

STOLEN BASES — Coleman, Kansas City, 43; Lofton, Cleveland, 40; Nixon, Boston, 34; Knoblauch, Minnesota, 25; LJohnson, Chicago, 21; McPhee, Kansas City, 20; ByAnderson, Baltimore, 20.

PITCHING (9 Decisions) — Kay, New York, 12-2, .857, 3.38; Bera, Chicago, 8-2, .800, 3.40; Plunk, Cleveland, 7-2, .778, 2.70; MClark, Cleveland, 9-3, .750, 3.80; Mussina, Baltimore, 12-4, .750, 3.05; Cone, Kansas City, 12-4, .750, 2.68; MPerez, New York, 7-3, .700, 3.84; Sanderson, Chicago, 7-3, .700, 3.96.

STRIKEOUTS — RJohnson, Seattle, 141; Clemens, Boston, 131; Finley, California, 113; Hentgen, Toronto, 103; Appler, Kansas City, 101; BWhit, Oakland, 94; Brown, Texas, 91; Cone, Kansas City, 91.

SAVES — LeSmith, Baltimore, 28; Aguilera, Minnesota, 17; Montgomery, Kansas City, 13; Grahe, California, 12; Russell, Boston, 12; Eckersley, Oakland, 12; Ayala, Seattle, 11.

Monesi drove a 2-1 pitch to right field for his 14th home run and fifth in his last 19 games.

Rookie Ismael Valdes (1-0) earned his first major league victory in his seventh appearance. The right-hander pitched two perfect innings and has allowed only one hit over his first 9 1/2 innings.

Brett Butler scored from second on a wild pitch in the first inning by the left-handed Fassero, who retired 22 in a row.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

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STOLEN BASES — DSanders, Cincinnati, 32; Grissom, Montreal, 29; Biggio, Houston, 24; Carr, Florida, 23; Mouton, Houston, 22; DLewis, San Francisco, 22; Clayton, San Francisco, 18; DBell, San Diego, 18.

PITCHING (9 Decisions) — DuJackson, Philadelphia, 11-2, .846, 3.34; KHL, Montreal, 12-3, .800, 3.54; Mercker, Atlanta, 7-2, .778, 4.02; GMaddux, Atlanta, 11-4, .733, 1.78; Saberhagen, New York, 9-4, .692, 3.36; Reynolds, Houston, 6-3, .667, 3.58; Drabek, Houston, 10-5, .667, 2.83; Cardinelli, Los Angeles, 6-5, .667, 4.04.

STRIKEOUTS — Benes, San Diego, 134; Rijo, Cincinnati, 117; GMaddux, Atlanta, 111; PJMartinez, Montreal, 105; Fassero, Montreal, 104; Glavine, Atlanta, 104; McGross, Los Angeles, 101.

SAVES — DJones, Philadelphia, 23; Franco, New York, 19; Myers, Chicago, 17; McMichael, Atlanta, 16; Beck, San Francisco, 15; Wetteland, Montreal, 14; Hudak, Houston, 13; Hoffman, San Diego, 13; Rojas, Montreal, 13; BRuffin, Colorado, 13.

Defeats against England and then two in succession at home against France have sparked calls for coach Laurie Mains to step down. Not since 1949 had the All Blacks lost consecutive matches at home.

Mains, however, declared: "I'm no quitter. I have a job to do."

The New Zealand selectors have axed center Matthew Cooper, winger Jonah Lomu and scrum-half Siu Foster in the wake of the second defeat against France.

The New Zealand backline has been completely revamped, with scrum-half Graeme Bachop recalled in place of Foster and fullback Shane Howarth and former Western Samoan center Alama Ieremia named to make their All Black debuts.

John Timu will move from fullback to replace teen-ager Lomu on the left wing, while Ieremia will take over from Cooper, who has been struggling with his handling and goal-kicking. Howarth will be the new goal-kicker as New Zealand continues its search for an adequate replacement for Grant Fox, now retired.

Ieremia's inclusion signals the intention of the New Zealanders to attack the tourists down the wings. "They are a bit suspect out wide in defense," Ieremia said. Bachop returns to the test arena after a two-year absence and will link with brother Stephen, who will play at fly-half.

"We've grown up together and trained a lot together, but this will be a demanding challenge," Graeme Bachop said.

Howarth said South African rugby has truly caught up with the rest of the world after its years of isolation. "They are a very formidable group of individuals," he said. "We have got to give them a lot of respect."

Quality Classifieds

Ben-Porat raps Micha Harish for criticism

EVELYN GORDON

STATE Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat yesterday lashed out at Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish, accusing him of "trampling" the institution of the State Comptroller's Office by his attacks on her.

Harish has charged that Ben-Porat exceeded her authority by criticizing matters which, to his mind, were policy decisions, not issues of clean government.

Such issues included the investment grants given to the Haifa Chemicals plant in the Negev, the sale of Bank Hapoalim shares and the construction of a helicopter landing strip in Arafat.

At a meeting of the Knesset state control committee yesterday, Ben-Porat indignantly denied exceeding her authority.

In the case of Haifa Chemicals, for instance, she said, she was obligated to point out that the plant was not economically viable, since preventing financial waste is one of her explicit responsibilities.

"While my office has presented a detailed economic document — based on the calculations done by the Industrial Development Bank — which points out the losses to the country's economy that can be expected from an investment in Haifa Chemicals, the minister is replying to the criticism with vague arguments that aren't backed by economic calculations," she said.

MK Shaul Yahalom (NRP) put the expected losses at NIS 160 million, based on the bank's calculations and a letter from state budget director David Brodet.

With regard to Bank Hapoalim, Ben-Porat said she had not tried to

force her opinion on anyone; she was merely trying to point out considerations that might have been overlooked before it was too late. (As a result of her pointing out these considerations, the Knesset finance committee postponed the sale for three months.)

As for another of Harish's accusations — that she had neglected the crisis at the Israel Foreign Trade Risks Insurance Company — Ben-Porat said she had sent 30 requests on this matter to the director-general of the ministry. It was "surprising," she said, that Harish was ignorant of this.

In response, Harish said that if he had erred in his facts, he would not hesitate to admit it, and promised to investigate the issues and write Ben-Porat back. However, he stressed that it was his right to express his opinion when it differed from the comptroller's.

He said there were two good reasons for approving the grants to Haifa Chemicals. First, since the grants had been approved by the previous government, it would have sent the wrong signal to foreign investors had the new government canceled them, and second, the government needs to encourage employment in the south.

Furthermore, Harish noted, the grants were approved by the Knesset finance committee, at the state control committee's request.

The MKs, however, strongly backed Ben-Porat. Even Ra'anan Cohen (Labor) said that while Harish has every right to dispute the comptroller's findings, he must at least present a detailed explanation, based on hard figures, of why he thinks her conclusions are wrong.



Histadrut Secretary-General Haim Ramon (left) takes over from Haim Haberfeld.

(Israel Sun)

Ramon goes to work, gives new orders at Histadrut

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MK Haim Ramon yesterday began his first day as Histadrut secretary-general by moving into the head office on the fifth floor of the Histadrut headquarters on Tel Aviv's Arlosoroff Street and issuing new directives to the workers.

At a meeting with representatives of the workers there, Ramon made it clear that a new era had begun in the Histadrut.

From now on, he said, Histadrut Executive workers are forbidden to conduct any political or partisan activity in the building or within work hours; workers would not be able to request reimbursement for meals outside the building; and anyone who

receives car expenses as a benefit will not be allowed to use a Histadrut car or taxi at the federation's expense.

Ramon also told workers there would be no dismissals during the next year.

Ramon arrived at 9:30 a.m., half an hour later than he had planned, and was greeted in the lobby by fearful, yet smiling, workers.

Former secretary-general Haim Haberfeld met him on the fifth floor, ushered him into his new office, and the two — who had not said a word to each other since long before the May Histadrut elections — shook hands.

Later in the afternoon, the two had a tete-a-tete in which Haberfeld passed on to his successor the more confidential information concerning Histadrut affairs.

Ramon told reporters that during his term of office he intends to concentrate on rehabilitating Kupat Holim Clalit.

In the afternoon, Ramon met with Clalit directors to discuss the next steps to be taken to resolve the health fund's financial crisis. He intends today to meet Finance Minister Avraham Shohat on the issue.

Ramon said he also will work dur-

ing his tenure on the pension funds, trade union business, labor relations and reorganizing the Histadrut.

"All these things should keep me busy from morning to night," Ramon said.

Asked how long he actually intended to serve in the post, he said "you can be sure of one thing, I have no intention of staying here until I retire." Ramon said that at first he would spend a few days a week in Jerusalem, and eventually transfer the entire Histadrut headquarters to the capital. There was speculation that this would be one way to get rid of many workers who don't want to move.

Shas to join gov't in two weeks

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE Y'ud faction is expected to join the government next week, and Shas in two weeks, thus fulfilling Prime Minister Rabin's plan to broaden his coalition before the Knesset's summer session ends.

Shas will commence talks with the government on joining the coalition only after the negotiations with Y'ud are completed, according to an agreement between the prime minister's aides and Shas leaders. Shas leaders prefer, due to what they call "street pressure," to enter the coalition only after Y'ud joins, when the move would be less significant to the balance of power.

The talks with Y'ud are to resume on Monday and are expected to be completed next week. However, at this stage it appears that only two of the faction's three MKs — Gonen Segov and Alex Goldfarb — will be joining the coalition.

MK Esther Salimovitz, who foiled Y'ud's plans to join the government this week, is conditioning her joining on "a real and significant change" in the government's treatment of the settlements. Labor Party leaders are still making efforts to persuade Salimovitz to join the government and there is talk of making her a deputy minister instead of giving the position to Goldfarb, or offering her the chair of the War on Drugs Authority, today held by MK Eli Ben-Menahem.

If Y'ud enters the government, it will pave the way for Shas to do so as well, especially now that its spiritual mentor, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, has approved of the move. His approval was given in exchange for a written commitment from Rabin that Labor would act "to correct things every time there is a problem concerning religious legislation."

Meanwhile, Rabbi Eliezer Schach, Shas's founder and now its enemy, is planning to establish a rival all-Sephardi party to run in the next Knesset elections. The new movement, called the Organization of Torah Teachers, is to hold a founding conference in the Jerusalem International Convention Center (Biayenei Ha'uma) this afternoon.

Flatmate set afire in dispute on rent

ALEXANDER MIROZNIK, 46, of Aviel, was accused yesterday in Tel Aviv District Court of setting his flatmate on fire.

According to police, the incident occurred after a fight over whether the roommate, Michael Mazor, had paid his share of the rent. Mazor dozed off a bit later, only to awake with a start to discover that Miroznik had poured gasoline over him and thrown a lit match at him. He ran out of the apartment with his pants burning, and neighbors helped him extinguish the flames. Mazor was hospitalized with burns on his back and knees.

Itm

Three held for gang rape

RAINE MARCUS

THREE men suspected of gang raping a prostitute were remanded for 11 days by Tel Aviv Magistrates Court yesterday.

Police are still looking for a fourth suspect.

The woman, aged 30 and known as a prostitute, complained to police that she had been abducted by the four while she was soliciting in the city's Ben-Yehuda Street at about 2 a.m. Tuesday.

She told police that one man grabbed her and dragged her to a nearby apartment, where the three other men were waiting.

There, she said, they brutally beat and raped her. When she tried to escape, they beat and raped her again, at gunpoint.

During the arrest of the three — Constantine Zukerman, Michael Zukerman and Alexander Manzini — police found a toy gun.

The gang rape lasted for nearly

four hours, the woman said. Just before 6 a.m. she managed, naked, to flee the apartment.

In another rape case in the same court yesterday, 24-year-old Igor Spiegel was remanded for a week by Judge Hayuta Cohen.

Spiegel visited a young woman at her Herzliya home and persuaded her to meet him later that evening, police said. At the meeting at a hut near her home, Spiegel allegedly forced her to perform oral sex on him and then raped and sodomized her, despite her pleas for him to stop, police said.

The following day, Spiegel arrived at the girl's house and demanded NIS 1,000 because he said "she had harmed his health," according to police. He also threatened the girl's uncle at knifepoint, saying he would kill him and his niece, police said.

Spiegel denied all allegations, but Cohen said a medical examination proved the woman had been raped.

Livnat says gun-licensing 'arbitrary' and unmonitored

DAN IZENBERG

MK Limor Livnat yesterday accused the Interior Ministry firearms licensing department of issuing or withholding licenses arbitrarily. The MK also called for easing the criteria so that "almost any citizen" would be able to bear arms.

Livnat, speaking during a meeting of the Knesset interior committee, charged that the department applied overly stringent criteria to requests for a gun permit and did not explain to applicants why their requests were turned down.

At the same time, 27,000 people whose licenses have expired despite repeated warnings and deadline extensions, have not been prosecuted for illegally carrying arms, said Livnat.

In addition to the serious policy flaws, the department did not function properly, she said.

"They don't answer letters," said Livnat. "Thousands of letters pile up each year without a response, she said."

Livnat gave the example of a former air force pilot working in the Barkan industrial area in the territories who was denied a license without explanation. "I wrote a letter on his

behalf and still have not received an answer a month later," said Livnat.

Livnat said she had only learned during the meeting that the criteria for issuing gun licenses are confidential, and were determined by the government rather than through legislation.

Avi Elimelech, head of the firearms licensing department, said his office operated according to criteria established five years ago, according to committee chairman Yehoshua Matza. When asked to reveal them to the committee, Elimelech said he was barred from doing so.

Livnat added that a special committee headed by Shlomo Cohen, which examined the issue, submitted its findings in August 1993, and recommended easing the criteria for issuing permits and making the criteria public. The committee also recommended shortening the validity of gun licenses from five to two years.

Although almost a year has passed, the Interior Ministry has not discussed the findings, Livnat charged.

Livnat and Matza demanded that the Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin appoint an interior minister immediately, and publish the criteria for issuing gun licenses.

Likud complains Knesset duties neglected by government

DAN IZENBERG

PARLIAMENTARY tensions between the Likud and Labor have intensified over the past few days, with the Likud accusing the government of ignoring the Knesset and blaming Speaker Shevah Weiss for failing to run it properly.

Yesterday, Deputy Speaker Ovadia Eli protested when Weiss drastically reduced the agenda to enable ministers and MKs to attend the funeral of Tawfik Zayyad. Opposition MKs also complained that Weiss changed the order of what was left of the agenda at the last moment.

Later, Likud MKs protested when no ministers showed up to reply to a motion by David Mena on the salary hikes awarded to senior Labor Party Histadrut officials after the Histadrut election.

The night before, the opposition rammed through a resolution in the name of the Knesset calling on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to resign over the recently issued annual state comptroller's annual report. The move had no legal ramifications but was meant to embarrass the government.

Labor faction chairman Eli Dayan

accused the Likud of exploiting the fact that members of the coalition were attending the Histadrut convention.

Weiss later admitted that he had trouble persuading many ministers to appear before the Knesset. He explained that their failure to come when scheduled often forced him to make last-minute changes in the agenda.

Weiss told the plenum that he was also attacked by his colleagues in the coalition for holding late-night sessions. He said he had no choice but to prolong the sessions since MKs were much more active than in the past, as evidenced by the fact that they submitted twice as many motions and private members' bills than in previous Knessets.

When all was said and done, he concluded, the facts would speak for themselves.

"There is no substitute for participation. That's all. If MKs come and participate, there will be different results in the voting. If they don't come and don't participate, the results will reflect the attendance in the plenum. There are no miracles."

MK Tawfik Zayyad's last call: Unity between Israeli Arabs and Palestinians

RAINE MARCUS

THE late MK Tawfik Zayyad could not suppress his excitement at meeting Yasser Arafat on Monday at the Palestine Hotel in Gaza.

"Now we can meet openly," Zayyad said. "I'll never forget the first time we met in a forest somewhere in Europe — so that no one would see us. But even before we met face to face — we had met in spirit."

"I have been telling Israel for years that it must recognize the PLO, and now it has finally happened," he said. "This is finally the first stages of our homeland."

Zayyad invited Arafat, to Nazareth adding he wanted to see Arafat in Jerusalem, "the capital of Palestine —

and not only to pray."

Zayyad was part of a delegation of Hadash Party members and Israeli Arab local council heads from the Galilee region who met with Arafat, and which included three MKs: Zayyad, Hashem Mahmmed and Tamar Gozansky.

For many on the bus, this was their first time in Gaza. Residents on the main street were amazed to see a bus load of men and women waving to them from the windows of the bus, bearing Israeli license plates and escorted by a Palestinian jeep.

The hall in which he greeted Arafat was packed with Gazan notables, Palestinian Authority officials and inter-

den descent of customers, brought salads and cold drinks. "Habbas (pita, in Arabic)," shouted Zayyad, when waiters were slow in bringing the bread.

"You know," he said, "this reminds me of a demonstration I organized in 1952 in Nazareth protesting unemployment in the city. Our slogan was 'Bread and Work' and we didn't know how to encourage people to demonstrate."

He recalled how he and his associates spread a rumor that there was work waiting for 400 people at the local employment exchange. The rumor spread and thousands of people lined up.

"They were really angry," he said, "but it did the trick. They took to the streets, shouting 'we want work — we want bread.'"

On the bus ride from Gaza, Zayyad got off just before the Erez checkpoint, to finish his return trip to Nazareth by car. The bus driver waited for around 20 minutes while Zayyad cleaned his car windows.

"They don't want anything to happen to him," said one woman.

"Well, at least it shows he's a careful driver," said another.

The following day, Zayyad was killed in a car accident while driving from Jericho towards Jerusalem.

Thousands of people, many of them wearing black arm bands, attended Zayyad's funeral in Nazareth, where he had served as mayor since 1975. Among the government officials attending the funeral were Police Minister Moshe Shabai, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid and Tourism Minister Uzi Baram. Members of the Palestinian Authority were also present.

President Ezer Weizman sent a condolence telegram to the family, in which he said Zayyad's death was the loss of "a distinguished leader, who for years had battled for equality and civil rights for Israel's Arab citizens."

Kahane Chai leader Binyamin Kahane and four other group members, who had come to Nazareth to celebrate Zayyad's death, were detained by police until the funeral was over.

Woman forcibly sent to mental hospital loses case in court

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday criticized the District Psychiatrist's Office for forcibly hospitalizing a woman for mental illness for 49 days.

However, the court rejected the woman's claim for damages from Kupat Holim Clalit on the grounds that at the time of her hospitalization, she did not have to be examined by the district psychiatrist, which is now required by law.

The woman, who worked for Kupat Holim Clalit in Petah Tikva, claimed she was harassed by her co-workers to the point that she became depressed and sought medical treatment.

She also claimed in her petition that Clalit workers had forcibly hospitalized her, which had only caused her more suffering.

Judge Drora Pilpel said the petitioner failed to prove that the harassment of her co-workers was beyond that of reasonable working relationships and had affected her mental health.

She did criticize, however, the district psychiatrist for deciding to forcibly hospitalize the woman based on the assessment of another doctor, who claimed she was psychotic and liable to commit suicide. He should have examined her himself, so he could receive a direct impression of her condition, Pilpel said.

Despite the fact that the doctor's impression was substantially different from that of the emergency room doctor — who had also examined her — the district psychiatrist decided to hospitalize her for 49 days, she said. However, Pilpel concluded that at the time the woman was hospitalized district psychiatrists or members of their office were not obligated to examine patients themselves, a procedure which is now required by law.

She therefore concluded that Kupat Holim Clalit had not violated the law, and ruled that the woman must pay the health fund NIS 6,000 in court costs.

(Itm)

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